

way and others perhaps who do not always try to avoid it. That we may prove to God, and our foolish vanity that we are loyal to him and our faith in his Christ, but methinks such presumption is but the half way house to desire. But we find out our mistake when we have been overcome by the subtle circumstances we reckoned not with. And the force and truth of those words of Jesus stand out in bold relief, "Pray that ye enter *not* into temptation."

God who spoke those words through Jesus, knoweth our frame, that we are but dust, and unable of ourselves to overcome at all times, every temptation, but if we are fortified by continual prayer he will not allow us to be tempted above what we are able, but will provide a way of escape. That way is help from on High, if we obey his commands, "Pray that ye enter not into temptation" being included. We all pray that we may be kept from the commission of sin, but do we, each one and all, pray that we enter not into temptation, which generally speaking is the forerunner of the actual commission of sin. Temptation, subtle serpent that glides into our hearts and minds so silently, and sometimes unperceived and to late, and we are enveloped in its loathsome and crushing folds. How wise then, the words and command of Christ "Pray that ye enter *not* into temptation," and how important and vital that we should obey it. In his own temptation and trial, when he was about to suffer, (he uttered those words then) he practiced what he preached,

he prayed that if it was possible that the cup should pass from him He knew what his trial would be, "Art thou the Christ" was the temptation. If he had said no, all would have went well with him for the time being. He knew that it was necessary that he should pray, for help, no, he prayed that the cup might pass from him, and while he prayed help came, and he was strengthened and who dare say it was not necessary? He was tempted unto death, but his victory was all the more glorious. We should follow his example if he is our pattern. It is not the case with us as it was with him, temptation unto death, even the shame of the cross, but if our temptation should involve life or property let us say with Christ "Not my will but thine be done" and as sure as he received help so shall we, and like him come off more than conqueror. But if we are determined to meet temptation not desiring God that we enter not into it, the chances are against us that we come from the fray overcome and vanquished, suffering remorse as did Peter, with some bordering on the frenzy of despair and fate of Judas. Let us pray then that we enter not into temptation Prayer is the only connecting link we have with heaven, and as we pray the peace of God, laden with the sweet influence of His presence will flood our hearts to overflowing with thankfulness that we are kept, whether from, or in temptation, we are kept from sin.

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