

## THE PRAYER That Changed the Universe

# Can We Lose Salvation?

by Bill Marкнам Co-Host, The 700 Club Canada



This question is rooted in an erroneous view of salvation. If salvation were contingent on our actions, the fear of

disqualification might be legitimate. However, the profound truth is that our salvation rests entirely on the sacrificial work of Christ on the cross, not on our deeds.

The comforting assurance we find in Romans 8:35-39 reminds us that nothing can sever the bond between us and the love of God. It is like the unwavering love of a parent for their child, even in the face of mistakes and shortcomings. God's forgiveness knows no bounds. Even when our choices lead to painful consequences, God's love endures.

Rather than viewing sin and salvation as mere actions, consider them as directions. We are constantly moving either closer to or farther away from God. Choosing to walk away can lead to a separation with the potentially devastating outcome of spiritual death. Conversely, walking toward Him, regardless of our past, brings the promise of life. Think of it this way: If God were warmth, then to walk away from Him would be to experience cold. If God were light, then to walk away from Him would be to plunge into darkness. At any point, you could turn around and experience warmth and light, understanding that those things were dependant on the Source and not your activity.

Ultimately, the pivotal question is simple: In which direction are you walking? The foundation of salvation remains steadfast, inviting us to journey toward the eternal warmth and light of God's unyielding love.

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#### **CBN NEWS: HEALTHY LIVING**

## FROM FATIGUED TO FANTASTIC!

Discover simple steps to end fatigue and reclaim your life

Whether it's fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue, or prolonged symptoms of COVID-19, many Americans are facing an ongoing battle with exhaustion. Dr. Jacob Teitelbaum, author of *From Fatigued to Fantastic!* offers help to sufferers of weariness based on 40 years of research and treating patients.

To reclaim health and vitality, Teitelbaum recommends his S.H.I.N.E.<sup>®</sup> program that focuses on optimizing sleep, balancing hormones, addressing infections, nutrition, and exercise.

First, he talks about the importance of sleep. His research has shown that many people need as much as nine hours of sleep each night. He suggests a sleep mask may help, along with the supplement melatonin. If those steps don't work, a doctor can prescribe a low dose of sleep medication.

Next, check with your doctor about how to balance your hormones such as the thyroid and adrenals. Teitelbaum says getting angry when you are hungry is a strong indicator that you have a problem with your adrenal hormones. But the good news is hormonal issues are treatable. Your physician can also diagnose and treat any infections that may be causing exhaustion.

For nutrition, Teitelbaum recommends cutting out sugar, including soda and fruit juices. He says increasing your salt intake may also help if it doesn't affect your blood pressure.

For exercise, Teitelbaum says to start by walking and see how much you can do without becoming fatigued. Then, slowly increase your steps using a pedometer.

For more information, check out Teitelbaum's website at EndFatigue.com. But be sure to consult your physician before taking any supplements or changing your diet and exercise routine.



Do you find yourself overtired?



# THE PRAYER

by Gordon Robertson

n Good Friday, we commemorate how Jesus suffered and died on the cross for our sins. Then on Easter Sunday, we celebrate the glorious new life we have in Him through His resurrection from the dead. Yet it was the Thursday before those momentous events when Jesus changed the universe with a prayer.

That evening, Jesus shared the Last Supper with His disciples. He knew Judas had gone to betray Him, and He understood full well the torture that awaited Him. After supper, they sang a hymn and went to pray on the Mount of Olives. Specifically, Jesus took them to Gethsemane—which means "olive press."

Since ancient times, olives have always been pressed three times to obtain their oil. The first is a pressing. The second is a beating. And the third is a grinding, which is the worst and has a bitter taste. Our modern terms are extra-virgin, virgin, and regular olive oil.

God told Moses that only "*pure oil of pressed olives*" could be used for the Tabernacle's lampstand, adding, "*It shall be a statute forever*" (Leviticus 24:2-3). Whenever God says this, it applies for all time—to the church and to us today.

Now remember how Jesus said, "*I am the light* of the world" (John 8:12)—and how He imparted that to us, saying, "*You are the light of the world*" (Matthew 5:14). To be that light, we need His pure oil.

So it's significant that Jesus went to an olive press, where He prayed three times. Mark 14:33-35 tells us, He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch." He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him.

Then in verse 36, Jesus makes this amazing declaration: "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not

#### what I will, but what You will."

He goes back to His dearest friends, finds them asleep, and asks, "Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (vv. 37-38). Our bodies are naturally reluctant to endure pain. Yet Jesus was steadfast. Verse 39 says, Again He went away and prayed, and spoke the same words—that incredible prayer of surrender, not what He wants, but what His Father wants.

He returned to His sleeping disciples a second time. Then verse 41 tells us, *He came the third time and said to them*, ... *"The hour has come; behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners.*"

So we have three different pressings. The first one results in that pure oil: "Not my will, but Yours." The second asks, "Can this cup pass?" And third is the resolution that the terrible price for our salvation would be paid—and the world was never the same.

This grueling process is also seen in the last 24 hours of Jesus' life. First, the pressing to get that pure oil—His decision in Gethsemane. Next, the beaten oil—the abandonment, denial, mockery, crown of thorns, and 39 stripes. Finally, the crushing—the crucifixion, when His body was crushed with the weight of all sin for all people for all time.

Yet through it all, Jesus saw the ultimate goal. After the Last Supper, He sang Psalm 118, which includes these incredible statements of faith: "*The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation. I shall not die, but live,* 



and declare the works of the LORD. The LORD has chastened me severely, but He has not given me over to death. This was the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. God is the LORD, and He has given us light; bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar" (vv. 6, 14, 17, 18, 23, 24, 27).

Jesus was bound to the cross by His love for us, then was raised from the dead by His Father. Through Him, we have His life, His resurrection, and His illumination. He gives us that pressed oil—the anointing of the Holy Spirit—equipping us to be witnesses and light to the world.

So when you feel hard-pressed or weak, fight the good fight of faith and hold onto hope. And ask God to let the love of Jesus Christ and the pure oil of the Holy Spirit pour forth from you. For as Romans 8:37 promises, *Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.* God bless you!

*Excerpted from a teaching given at Regent University. Scripture is quoted from the NKJV.* 

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—Presented by John Kok CFP, RRC, CEA, CKA, MTS

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### *I have done some bad things. I'm nervous and scared. Do I need to be perfect to go to heaven?*

The Bible says in Romans 3:23, For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. All have missed the mark, and that mark is hard to achieve.

But I've got some good news: Jesus achieved it for you. He is willing for you to become the righteousness of God in Him so that your perfection comes from Him. It does not come from anything you do.

That's why the Bible says in Romans 4:3 that *Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.* You get that righteousness from Jesus by believing the Gospel.

When you say you're scared—wondering is this sin going to prohibit you from heaven—you're saying Christ's shed blood on the cross wasn't enough.

But His sacrifice was enough.

Let it guide you through the rest of your life. We constantly need to remind ourselves that His blood is still effective, the covenant He made still covers, and it still speaks today.

Scripture is quoted from the NKJV. Excerpted from a teaching given by Gordon Robertson at Regent University.





Journey beyond myth and legend to explore the true account of the patron saint of Ireland. In CBN Films' *I Am Patrick*, you'll discover the remarkable story of a Christian who was called to proclaim the Gospel in a country that once held him captive in his youth. This four-time Emmy-nominated docudrama celebrates the life and legacy of St. Patrick and his determination to obey the Lord's will.

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• Dreatinaking views of distant lands that reveal the beauty and spiendor of creation

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