

## Message: Denying Christ the saviour

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In the face of trials and persecutions, many believers are denying Christ, the bible says in **Luke 18:8 KJV** I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

The story of the widow is a perfect example of how a believer should live his or her life, not denying the power of prayer through Christ Jesus. She kept on praying, having Faith and believing in justice in the face of her challenges.

### Denying Christ is to:-

- follow other gods in the face of persecution
- serve other gods
- fear the flesh
- dishonour the bible
- keep sinning without remorse
- is to say I don't know him
- fail to pray to God
- stop reading the bible
- believe in self
- trust in man
- stop living in holiness
- fight the church
- persecute the saint

Peter denied Jesus when confronted, I'm praying this hour that in the face of persecution you will not deny Christ in the name of Jesus

The scripture explained, how Peter believed so much in himself thinking he can withstand persecution without the help of the holy spirit but failed as seen in

**Matthew 26:31-38 KJV** Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad. [32] But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee. [33] Peter answered and said unto him, Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended. [34] Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. [35] Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples. [36] Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. [37] And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. [38] Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

**Matthew 26:69-75 KJV** Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. [70] But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest. [71] And when he was gone out into the porch, another maid saw him, and said unto them that were there, This fellow was also with Jesus of Nazareth. [72] And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man. [73] And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art one of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee. [74] Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew. [75] And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.

Hear this bitter truth, as in **1 Corinthians 10:12 KJV** Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

Peter fell and failed in the face of persecution, he thought he was standing but fell, I'm praying once again that you will not fail in times of trouble in the name of Jesus.

**What then can make a man to deny Christ ?**

**Matthew 4:3-10 KJV** And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. [4] But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. [5] Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, [6] And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. [7] Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. [8] Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; [9] And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. [10] Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

- lust of flesh
- lust of eyes
- pride of life
- search for power
- lust for fame
- unbrokenness
- poor biblical understanding
- Ignorance of the power of the enemies
- persecution and hardship

#### **What then must we do in order not to deny Jesus?**

- we need to surrender totally to Christ
- crucify the flesh
- pray for baptism of holy ghost and fire
- never boast in your works but in the strength of God
- draw your strength and power from the bible, the true word of God
- seek God at all times
- pray always to overcome persecution and temptation
- pray for strength not to fall in the day of adversity as seen in Proverbs 24:10 KJV If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

#### **Prayer**

1. My Father help and strengthen me not to fall into the hands of the devil in the name of Jesus
2. Anything in me and around me that will draw me away from Christ die in the name of Jesus
3. Jesus Christ be in me and around me in the name of Jesus
4. Powers of darkness harassing to deny Christ I overcome you by the blood of Jesus
5. Rescue me o Lord from the sword of the wicked in the name of Jesus