

7.4.BP(61). Sacrificial Prayer.

Surrendered Soul. Mark 14:32-42

¹⁷ Now the **Lord is the Spirit**, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **freedom**. ¹⁸ And we all, with **unveiled face**, beholding the **glory** of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

The *spiritual development* of the disciple is a growing *sanctification* that disciples might bear the righteous image of God (Genesis 1:26) as they resemble the *face* of Mashiach (2 Corinthians 4:6), growing into their calling as his *brothers* (Romans 8:28-30). So, as the disfiguring *bondage* of sin is sanctified from the disciple's life:

1 New-born	2.Follow-ing	3.Con-nected	4.Shep-herding	5.Sacrif- cial Servant	6. House Shep.	7. Gener. Shep.
Fleshly Bondage	Self- Rule	Fleshly Isolation	Self- interest	Self- serving	Fleshly Rights	Fleshly Identity

the disciple is *freed* from the flesh and grows by the Spirit to resemble the Lord Jesus Mashiach. This freedom allows the disciple to “gaze” upon the glory of the Lord, presenting themselves holy and accepted before the Lord to be changed.

At this stage of *growth*, you should be at home in the Lord God’s presence, having presented your heart to him to know his calling on your life. Your life before him to serve him with all your strength. And, having already sanctified your mind by repenting of your past sins and errant ways.

Now, as you come **before the Lord** with the needs of the flock and its generations, having already presented yourself before him for his service, now *pour your soul* out to the Lord.

Even if I am to be **poured out** as a **drink** offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Philippians 2:17

As your household comes alive, you recognize that you have already labored for the Lord, raised disciples, and gathered families. Now, it is time for the next generations to live before the Lord. So, as you bring them all before him, you pour out your soul before him as a familiar *servant* who has already given everything up but what remains of his life.

Praying by *pouring your soul out* before the Lord is not to simply pray fervently, for your soul is more than your emotions, differing from your heart. Nor is such *soul-pouring* prayer praying with all your will, as if to conjure reality into existence. No, you *pour out your soul* when you

are present your whole life to the Lord, all what has formed you over the years and all you must do going forward—you give this to the Lord for the sake of your people. By pouring out your soul, as Jesus did, you are giving up your life that they might live.

It is right for me to feel this way about you **all**, because I hold you **in my heart**, for you are **all** partakers with me of grace, both **in my** imprisonment and **in** the defense and confirmation of the gospel. Philippians 1:7

In this way, *soul-pouring out prayer* is not just the self-sacrificing prayer of the parent. But, it is the *total sacrifice* of the head of *parents and households*, that his generations might have whatever they need, even if it costs them everything they have.

Read Mark 14:32-42.

³⁴ And he said to them, “My **soul is very sorrowful, even to death**. Remain here and watch.” ³⁵ And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶ And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. **Remove this cup** from me. Yet **not what I will**, but what **you will**.” Mark 14:34-36

Background:

Sorrowful to Death:

As created beings made from the *matter* of this earth (flesh) and God’s living breath-Spirit (ruach),

our souls were meant to be *alive* in this *blessed life* given to us by God, to be *hai nefesh*—living souls. So, when we face death, we anticipate the loss of all that is *good* in us. What is *living* avoids death at all cost.

But, the disciple is called to face and endure death for a *highest calling*—that the Father’s “will” is done (Mark 14:36). So, Jesus indeed have a right to have a “sorrow unto death” in his soul, for he faced the *greatest loss of all*: Jesus, being a glorious “one” with the Father as Elohim from before “the foundation of the world” (John 17:24) must at the cross suffer death and separation from the Father. The author of life must now be cleaved from the Father in death.

This is soul-death. Everything that you are, what you held most dear, what made you alive, you must now lose for the sake of the Father’s Will, and the Father wills that his House multiply abundantly!

What “soul death” are you willing to face? What brings you utter *sorrow* that you might see the fulfilling of the Father’s will, that *life is given to his family*?

Know that you who have *prayed in this way*, to face a *soul so sorrowed to death*—that you have poured yourself out to the Lord. Know that the Lord sees and accepts such sacrifices as giving him a high honor, because all that is precious is laid at his feet.

Case Study: A Soul Sorrowful to Death.

There are two occasions when I poured out my soul to the Lord in great sorrow. The first occasion was mainly a culmination of small deaths, like a series of *non-fatal heart-attacks* that accumulated, culminating in an unbearable sorrow.

As a newly married man, I served the Lord at a comfortable pastoral position in a suburban church. My wife and I sacrificed much for the ministry, *being paid* a nominal salary. With our friends all having babies, we longed for a child of our own. After years, my wife finally became pregnant, but with complications. The night before we received the final prognosis, I prayed before the Lord for my child. My firstborn. I poured out my soul, and would have **gladly given my life for the child to live**. That is the heart of the *generational shepherd* pouring his own soul out before the Lord, that if only that this offering would allow his child to live. Such a heart God honors. But, our child did not live.

Years later, through a series of *horrible losses*, we faced a looming death as a family. After leaving America for Canada and losing friends and jobs for the unknown, wave after wave of loss battered us. First, my wife's very life was slipping away before our eyes, as mental

illness took away her faith and her soul, spending increasing time in psychiatric wards. Child services investigated our spouse-less family and threatened to remove our children. I lost my full-time teaching job. We were behind in our rent and were to lose our home. My two children and I, with my wife, were facing an imminent death. But, even more pressing, I felt the call of God on my heart to serve him. So, I came before the Lord again. I poured out my soul to him, as death loomed. As I prayed for my family, preparing us to leave this world that had no place for us, I realized that there was a deeper sorrow still. If we were to die, I would leave this earth having neglected the Call I had been given. That was the deepest sorrow, and I prayed for the impossible. How can the “dead” glorify you, O Lord? Glorify your name. So, I also learned that to face imminent ruin, and to truly grieve over the Lord’s Will being left

undone, that is a *sorrow to death* which the Lord honors.

Finally, after the Lord restored all to me—my wife, my family, and finally, a *pastoral position* at the Church he had prepared for me. I still labored with a yearning burdening my soul. Perhaps two or three years before this moment, I was grieved at the state of the Kingdom. I grieved over the relentless onslaught of technology and social media, as it lured the faith of many households away from their faith in God. I mourned over the woeful state of discipleship and fruitlessness in the churches, and the epidemic of *fleshliness, especially among the churches' leadership*.

But, then I had a vision for what might *turn the tide, that my* spark a revival of Kingdom discipleship among the Churches, starting with our own congregation. To feed our people every morning with *devotional materials* that would build disciples, establish the rule of the Lord

Jesus and his throne, and expand the Kingdom of God. After developing the materials, the senior pastors of the church brought me into a meeting to confront me about these discipleship materials. They were “unrecognizable” to the theology and the Gospel associations to which the church leadership was beholden. In explaining the oneness of God-Elohim as a more helpful “family unity” rather than the merely descriptive term “Trinity,” I was a threat to the orthodoxy and was forbidden from continuing.

Driving, the sorrow to death *crushed my soul*. All my hopes to rescue our people from the encroaching darkness and the impending Day of Accounting were taken from me. These leaders had deprived our people from a last chance to *be revived as a Kingdom people*. All that possibility for good and for feeding was suddenly killed, and my souls was mourning as if dead.

At that point, I realized that the Church Age was coming to a close. There would be no more

revival, for the *terminal trajectory* of the Church, especially the “Christ-less Church” observing a mere *Churchianity* had no hope of revival or repentance.

Focus:

7.4. Bp. **Surrendered Soul**: **Sacrificial Prayer**:

Pouring out Soul to do Father's Will. Mark 14:32-42

1. **Sacrificed Soul**: Soul is poured out even to “death” .14:32-34.
2. **Surrendered to Father's Will**: Gives up Self-Will to do Father's Will: 14:35-36.
3. **Suffers Betrayal**: Gives up rights to do Father's Will. 14:37-42.

Consider:

Question:

Further Discovery: