

ISRAEL  
PROGRAM 9 (#911169)  
WEEK 2 (#911334)  
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: Israel**

**TITLE: Program 9 – Victory Over Temptation – Follow The Example Of Christ**

**THURSDAY**

**OPEN**

Is there something that you want almost more than life itself, something that you're craving, something that you're desiring, something that you say, "I can't do without it. Oh Precious One, listen to me carefully. You don't have to have it. There is a way of escape. Come with me to the Garden of Gethsemane. And let me tell you how to have victory over that desire, because you can walk as more than a conqueror.

**PART ONE**

Have you ever been tempted my friend, tempted to do something that you know was wrong? I have. I've been there. And you know it was in this Garden of Gethsemane many, many years ago that I discovered that there was a man by the name of Jesus that understood exactly what I was going through. I'm standing in the Garden of Gethsemane. It was the garden where Jesus would come very frequently. Gethsemane means "to be pressed out".

It was where they would take the olives and they would press out the olives to get the oil out of those olives. This was the place where Jesus was pressed out, pressed out so much that He literally thought He was going to die. This is the place where Jesus was tempted, tempted as you and I are in all points. This was the place where Jesus passed the test so that you and I might have victory over every temptation that comes our way. I'm standing in the midst of olive trees, olive trees that go back to the time of Jesus. And I want you to know my friend, that as I stand here, there are new shoots coming out of these olive trees. And those new shoots show that there is still life here, even those these trees go back to the time of Jesus Christ. They can still speak to us today. Speak to us about enduring. Speak to us about having life and not death, of going on, of pressing on, or being pressed out and passing the test. Jesus came here in the night in which He was betrayed. It was the Day of Unleavened Bread. It was the time of Pesach, the Feast of the Passover. It was the day when the Passover lamb was going to be put to death. It was the day when God's Passover Lamb was going to be arrested and taken to the house of Caiaphas and put on an illegal trial. And then from there, taken to Pilate and taken to Herod and eventually taken to Golgotha where He would die. Yes, there was a battle there. But the battle was won right here. I want to take you to Matthew, chapter 26. And as I take you to Matthew, chapter 26, I want to show you what happened after they celebrated the Passover Meal. When Jesus left the Upper Room, it says that they went out to the Mount of Olives and that's where the Garden of Gethsemane is. As He came to the Mount of Olives, He went to His favorite place. And it says, "Then Jesus came with them [with His disciples,] to a place called Gethsemane and [He] said to His disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.'"(Matthew 26:36) He left His disciples and He said, ["I'm going to go and pray."](PARAPHRASE 26:36) And as He went and prayed, "...He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and [He] began to be grieved and distressed. [And] He said to them, 'My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death...;' He says, "'...remain here and keep watch with Me.' And He went a little beyond them, and He fell on His face and [He] prayed, saying,

‘My Father, if [it’s] possible, let this cup pass from Me.’”(26:37-39a) What cup was He talking about? He was talking about the cup that He was about to drink. He was talking about becoming the Lamb of God, the Passover Lamb that would take away the sins of the world. He was talking about the fact that He was about to go to Calvary, that the corn of wheat, the grain of wheat was about to fall into the ground and die so that it would not abide alone. He was talking about His death, when He, Jesus, who knew no sin would be made sin for you and for me. When that would happen, God would turn His back on Jesus Christ. God would walk away, because Jesus who knew no sin, was about to be made sin for us. And the wages of sin is death. And that death that he’s talking about is separation from God and separation from man. And Jesus didn’t want that. And so He was in agony. This is where the battle, I believe, of Calvary, was won, in this Garden of Gethsemane. And, Precious One, it has a message for you. It has a message for me. And a little bit later I’ll tell you how I was tempted. And I will tell you what God showed me in this garden. But first of all I want to read. And so it says, “And He came to [His] disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, ‘So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour? Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.’”(26:40-41) Do you realize what He’s saying? Do you realize the import of those words? Those words are words that will show you how to have victory. He said to them, [“Keep watching. Keep on watching. Keep on praying.” Why? “Because the Spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”] (PARAPHRASE 26:41) How did Jesus know that? How did Jesus know that the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak? Well let me go back and tell you about myself. Let me tell you just a little bit about my background. I was raised in the church. I had a religion, but not a relationship. I didn’t understand that Christianity was something that was internal, not external, that Christianity was Christ in you. Not only the hope of glory, but the power to live a righteous life, the power to live a life that is pleasing to God. And when it’s pleasing to God, believe me, Beloved, it is pleasing for you. Because you know that you’re doing what’s right and you

have a clear conscience. Well, being brought up with that kind of a religion, but not a relationship and developing a very sensual focus at a very young age, my life ended up in immorality. I was married. And when I was married, I was a virgin physically, but I was not a virgin mentally. In my mind I was a harlot. My marriage lasted for six years. And after six years, because I was married to a man who was manic depressive, or bipolar, and I was so unhappy and he wouldn't go for counseling, and he wouldn't get help and I didn't know what was wrong with him, I left him. I shook my fist in the face of God and I said, and excuse me, but this is what I said. said, "To hell with You God, I'll see You around town. I'm going to find someone to love me." And I went out to look for love in all the wrong places, even as the song says. And I went from one man to another man to another man. I wanted someone that would look at me and say, "You know what? I know all about you and I still love you. I know all about you and it doesn't matter whether you're pretty or ugly, whether you're sick or well, whether you're in a good mood or a bad mood, I want you to know that I love you unconditionally." Well, I went looking for love in all the wrong places. And I went from one man to another man to another man. And you know what? I kept sinking down in a pit that I dug with my own hands. And then, in the grace of God, in that unearned love and favor and goodness of God, on July 16, 1963, He put me on my knees where I cried out to Him and I said, "God, I don't care if I never see another man as long as You live. I don't care if You paralyze me from the neck down. I don't care what You do to my two boys." Now those were the three worse things I could think of that could happen to me. And on that day, July 16, 1963, I was saved. I became a child of God. My sins were forgiven. And I came to know Jesus Christ in a very real way. And the Bible just came alive to me. It was as if someone took off a veil off of the Word of God and I could understand it. And I began to read it and I began to devour it. And the years went by and I walked in victory. I no longer lived in immorality. I would find myself attracted to other men, but I could keep it under control. God sent me another husband after my first husband committed suicide. God sent me another husband. And that man's

name is Jack Arthur and he's my husband today. We began taking trips to Israel and it was on one of those trips that I faced a temptation and I found the answer in a new way here in the Garden of Gethsemane. It was on that trip that I got a very serious ear infection. And I had to go and have it lanced so that I could get on an airplane. An Arab friend of mine came to take me to the doctor. As we walked out of the hotel, all of a sudden he passed some of his Arab friends and they said something to him. I couldn't understand the Arabic, but inwardly I knew what they were saying. This was a very handsome, handsome Arab. We got in the car. He put me in. He came around and got in the drivers seat, turned around and looked at me and put his arm on the back of the seat and he said, "You know, my friends were kidding me about being out with you." At that time, there arose up in me, such a desire to flirt with that man. That was like my past. That was fun. I didn't want it to go beyond flirting. I didn't want it to end in adultery. But it seemed like my flesh was crying out, one more time for that little flirtation. And I will tell you all about it when I come right back.

## **PART TWO**

I knew that that man professed to be an Arab Christian. But I knew that he didn't know Jesus Christ. I knew that I needed to witness to him. But really, you cannot combine witnessing and flirting. In my heart, in my heart, in that beautiful, beautiful setting, all I wanted to do was just taste again, a little bit of that old life. As I wrestled, I won the victory. You see, Precious One, we can win the victory. We can win because of what happened in this Garden of Gethsemane. We can win because He won the battle with the flesh. On that trip, as I came into this garden to teach the people on this passage, all of a sudden I broke down. I began to weep almost uncontrollably. And I began to weep because for the first time I really understood gut level. It got from my head down to my heart. It got from my mind to my soul, that Jesus truly understood what I was going through. Because He turned to His disciples and He said, "Keep [on] watching...keep [on] praying...[for] the Spirit is

willing, but the flesh is weak.”(Matthew 26:41) If you go on, you read in verse 42 that “[Jesus] went away...a second time....”(26:42a) “...and [He] prayed, saying, ‘My Father, if [it’s] possible, let this cup pass from Me; [nevertheless] not as I will, but as You will.’”(26:39b) And then a second time “...He [went] and [He] found them sleeping...And He left them...and [He] went [again] and [He] prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more.”(26:43-44) Why did Jesus, the son of God, God in the flesh, have to pray three times, “...Father, if [it’s] possible, take this cup from me.”?(26:39b) In other words, [“God, is there not another way? God, My flesh doesn’t want to go through with this. My Spirit is willing, but my flesh is weak. Father, if it’s possible, take this cup from me. Nevertheless, not My will, but Thine be done.”](PARAPHRASE 26:39-42) He prayed it three times, Precious One, because He knew what it was to have flesh that was weak. He knew what it was to have a Spirit that was willing, but a flesh that pulled Him in the opposite direction. He didn’t want to be separated from the Father. He, who was pure, He, who was holy, He, who was without sin, He, who was the Lamb of God, without spot and without blemish, didn’t want to become spotted, didn’t want to become blemished, didn’t want to become sin. But He wanted the will of God more than what His flesh wanted. And the battle was won here in the garden. I want to take you to Luke, chapter 22. Because Luke, chapter 22 shows us the ferociousness of the that battle. In Luke, chapter 22, this is what it says. “And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling [to] the ground.”(Luke 22:44) You know it’s interesting that Luke, the physician would give us this account. None of the other gospels tell us what happened. But remember Jesus was on His face. Jesus was agonizing with this temptation to walk away from the perfect will of the Father. Jesus was agonizing with the fact that He was about to become sin for us. He was in such torment that the Bible tells us that He was sweating great drops of blood. Do you realize that the body is designed to faint under pressure? Why? Because the blood pressure builds up and if it doesn’t faint, then you can have a stroke. Then you can have a cerebral hemorrhage. And what

happened to Jesus was this: He didn't faint. He was under such pressure that the little capillaries in His brain began to ooze blood. That blood mingled with the sweat. And as that blood mingled with the sweat, the agony was so great that it was falling to the ground. It was not little beads of perspiration, Beloved. But it was huge drops of blood mixed with sweat that was falling to the ground. Listen to what the Book of Hebrews has to say. The Book of Hebrews tells us in the second chapter, "[That,] since the children share in flesh and blood..." In other words, since you and I are made of flesh and blood, "...He Himself, [Jesus,] likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render [him] powerless...who had the power of death, that is, the devil...."(Hebrews 2:14) In other words, what he's saying is this: That when Jesus died on the cross, He broke Satan's power. How did He break Satan's power? Because listen to me very carefully, "...the wages of sin is death...."(Romans 6:23a) God says, ["The soul, the life that sins shall surely die."](PARAPHRASE 6:23) And what takes you to hell? And what takes any man to hell is the fact that they're a sinner. But Jesus came and Jesus died as your substitute. When He hung on that cross, ["Jesus, who knew no sin was made to be sin for you and me so that you and I might be made the righteousness of God in Him."](PARAPHRASE 2 Corinthians 5:21) When He died on the cross, when he paid for your sins in full, precious one, He broke Satan's power. He broke the power of sin. And that's why you and I, when we're tempted, always have a place to run. You say, "I couldn't tell God what I'm tempted to do." Listen, Precious One, ["God knows your thoughts; He knows your speech before a word is ever formed on your tongue. He knows your down sitting. He knows your uprising. He's acquainted with all your ways. There's no hiding from Him." He knows everything there is to know about every thought that you're having, everything that you are doing. And listen to me very carefully. If you are going against His commandments, if you are living a life that is contrary to this Word, if you are living an immoral life, an amoral life... In other words, if you're saying, "There are no absolutes. I can do what I please as long as it is pleasing to me and as long as it doesn't hurt anyone else." Precious one,

you're deceived. You're deceived. And you need to understand that there is a God in heaven and this is what He says. "...be [ye] sure, your sin[s] will find you out." (Numbers 32:23b) But not only does He tell you that your sins will find you out. Not only does He warn you that the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life. But this is what He says. In Hebrews, chapter 2, verse 17, it says, "...He had to be made like His brethren, [like men and women] in all things...that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for [your sins]." (Hebrews 2:17) What does that mean? That means that a holy God says that you can't go to heaven unless you're holy. And so Jesus comes and He propitiates, He satisfies God's holiness, because He takes your sins upon Him. And He pays for all your sins in full. That's what the wrestling in this garden was about. Jesus was about to leave here. He was about to be crucified. He who knew no sin was about to be made sin for you. And how do you handle that temptation? You come running to His throne of grace and you say, "God, I'm tempted. God, I'm tempted to do what is wrong. God, I'm tempted to leave my husband. God, I'm tempted to sleep with this person. God, I'm tempted to take those drugs. God, I'm tempted to lie. God, I'm tempted to steal. God, I am tempted." And He says, "I've come and I understand and I will free you from that temptation if you will simply allow Me to take over your life. I will give you the power. I will give you the grace to say no to that temptation." Beloved, it begins with bowing your knee and receiving Jesus Christ as your Savior. And then walking in the power of the Holy Spirit.