



LESSON 126 MARK 12:12

12 And they sought to lay hands on Him, but feared the multitude, for they knew He had spoken the parable against them. So they left Him and went away.

Attempts were made on Jesus' life many times, yet He never let a spirit of fear control Him or stop Him from doing what His Father directed.

In His early childhood, King Herod tried to destroy Him, but His Father protected Him. Matt 2:13 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

The devil tried to get Jesus to commit suicide, but Jesus was too smart to fall for the devil's temptations. Matt 4:5-7 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, 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. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

The devil tried to kill Jesus on the Sea of Galilee. Matt 8:23-27 And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him. And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep. And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish. And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. (Jesus wouldn't have rebuked the sea, if His Father had been the instigator of the storm.)

The men of Nazareth, Jesus' hometown, tried to kill Him at the start of His ministry. Luke 4:28-30 And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. But he passing through the midst of them went his way,

The Pharisees in Galilee plotted to destroy Jesus after He healed a man's withered hand. Read Matt 12:9-14. The chief priests and scribes in Jerusalem plotted to kill Jesus. Mk 11:17-18 And he taught, saying unto them, Is it not written, My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer? but ye have made it a den of thieves. And the scribes and chief priests heard it, and sought how they might destroy him: for they feared him, because all the people was astonished at his doctrine.

Jews in Jerusalem tried to stone Jesus several times because they disagreed with His teaching, even though what He taught was correct and true. John 8:59,10:31 Each time He remained safe. Jn 10:39 Therefore they sought again to take him: but he escaped out of their hand, And went away again beyond Jordan into the place where John at first baptized...

The chief priests even hired spies to mingle with the followers of Jesus. Luke 20:20 And they watched him, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor. The chief priests wanted also to kill Lazarus, one of the men Jesus raised from the dead. John 12:9-11 Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead. But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death; Because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus.

The chief priests and Pharisees issued a law calling for the betrayal of Jesus. Jn 11:57 Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given a commandment, that, if any man knew where he were, he should show it, that they might take him...Matt 26:2-4 Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, And consulted that they might take Jesus by subtlety, and kill him. But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people.

Judas decided to make some money by betraying Jesus to the Jewish leaders. Mt 26:14-16 Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.

Until the last, Jesus always escaped the evil intentions of the wicked servants of Satan. Even at the last, Jesus told Peter not to defend Him, that, if He asked His Father for protection, His Father would provide it, but Jesus was determined not to turn away from what He had come to do. Matt 26:53-54 Then said Jesus unto him (Peter), ...Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?

The Father protected Jesus, and Jesus was secure in His Father's hands. At no time was Jesus afraid or fearful. He trusted His Father to take care of Him, no matter what the circumstances, until it was time for His work to be finished here. John 13:1 Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him; Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;...

John 17:1-4 These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. The Lord Jesus lived His life here without fearfulness. He trusted His Father every moment. Don't let a spirit of fear control your life. 2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

We, too, can trust our heavenly Father to take care of and protect us till our work here is finished. Psalm 4:8 I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety. Proverbs 21:31... safety is of the LORD.

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