

March 1, 2026



WEEK 26 – JESUS PREDICTS PASSION 3 TIMES (LK 9&18, pp. 203-209)

US General George Patton famously stated, “the object of war is not to die for your country, but to make [your opponent] die for his.” Patton’s aggressive strategy, which led to success in the Second World War, is probably what the disciples were hoping Jesus would employ. But instead, Jesus pursued the opposite strategy. He predicted His own death, calling it necessary. He would die, not for His country, but for the sins of the whole world.

What earthly enemies had the Jews faced in the centuries since the Kingdoms fell? _____

Instead of their earthly enemies (i.e. the Romans), what enemy was Jesus going to war against? _____

Jesus said, “The Son of Man must suffer...and be killed.” (Luke 9:21-22)
Why must Jesus’ battle against sin, death and the devil include His own death? _____

“God’s steadfast love leads to this point. There was no other way for Him to rescue His creation than to send His Son. It was the only way.”
(CFM, p207)

When Peter heard these words, he ‘rebuked’ Jesus, saying, “*This shall never happen to you.*” (Matthew 16:21-23)

Why did Peter rebuke Jesus? _____

How did Jesus respond? _____

“The people have too low a vision for the Messiah...The Romans are too small a target.” (CFM, p204)

When we think about our lives and the problems we face, our sights are often set too low. We imagine that if we had more money or a better job or more possessions, or even better health, then all of our problems would fade away.

What temporal / earthly problems are you tempted to focus on? _____

“Jesus’ purpose was not to grant wishes. He did not come to make people rich. His aim was not earthly power.” (CFM, p205)

Why are earthly problems not our true and deepest problems? _____

“You are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.” (Matthew 16:23) **In what ways can we set our minds on the things of God rather than the things of man?** _____

For Next Time:
WEEK 27 – THE TRANSFIGURATION (Matthew 17:1-12, pp.211-217)