Lesson 19

**The Power of Darkness vs the Power of God**

**Luke 22-23**

Credit goes to Michael Wilcock and his commentary *The Message of Luke*. His approach to these two chapters most closely paralleled my own labor with them.

*“But this is your hour, and* ***the power of darkness****.”* (Luke 22:53b) … “***BUT*** *from now on the Son of man shall be seated at the right hand of* ***the power of God****.”* (22:69)

In these two chapters Luke is bringing to a head the final conflict between the seed of the serpent and the seed of the woman. Satan returns to seize the final opportunity, anticipated after Jesus passes the wilderness test (Luke 3), to foil God’s plan to reconcile the world to himself.

**1. Evening: the two plans revealed (22:1-38)**

 a. *The plan of destruction* (22:1-6)

 b. *The plan of salvation* (22:7-38)

**2. Night: the two plans interwoven (22:39-71)**

 *a. The agony* (22:39-46)

 *b. The arrest* (22:47-53)

 *c. The denial* (22:54-62)

 *d. The decision* (22:63-71)

**3. Morning: the two plans carried through (23:1-25)**

 *a. Pilate’s responsibility* (23:1-7)

 *b. Herod’s responsibility* (23:8-12)

 *c. Israel’s responsibility* (23:13-25)

**4. The Cross (23:26-56)**

 *a. The road to the cross*

 *b. The man on the cross*

 *c. The nails in the cross*

 *d. The people around the cross*

**5. Takeaways**

a. The struggle of self-surrender is really, really hard, but in Christ we overcome. We are in a cosmic battle, and the evil realm is too powerful for us. But it isn’t too powerful for Jesus!

*b. The nobleman who went away to receive his kingdom will return to grant those who have had ears to hear his message the privilege of ruling over creation with him!*