

Scene of Wilhelm and Stefan discussing the first onslaught of the siege

EXT. CITY STREETS - NIGHT

Wilhelm and Stefan walk the street toward their home, filthy and exhausted. Paulus and Thomas follow.

WILHELM

"You need to decide whether winning this war is more important than protecting Martin."

STEFAN

"Are you telling me you could have killed him?"

WILHELM

"Father, I watched Martin hang ten Magdeburg citizens, and then behead Captain Halbrecht. He fights for Maurice of Saxony, whom you've labeled a servant of our generation's anti-christ. If Maurice's service of the Emperor makes him the anti-christ's slave, what does Martin's service of Maurice make him?"

Stefan suddenly grabs Wilhelm by the scruff of his shirt, and thrusts him into the side of a horse stable by the way, causing horses inside to neigh, startled.

STEFAN

"How can I kill my son? How?"

His angry outburst turns into a sob. He drops his head onto Wilhelm's shoulder.

WILHELM

(to his younger brothers)

"Go home boys."

(to his father, when they depart)

"Father, look at me."

(when their eyes meet, he says)

"We fight not just for our lives and liberty, but we fight for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For this sacred cause, we will most gladly lay down our lives and the lives of our loved ones."

(he pauses)

"Who said that?"

Stefan pulls away and turns his gaze into the cloudless sky. He wipes his tears.

WILHELM

"You did. You were willing to sacrifice our lives today. An arrow even struck Thomas's helmet."

STEFAN

"Don't tell your mother about that."

WILHELM

"Good luck trying to keep Thomas quiet about that little exploit."

Stefan takes a deep breath and grins.

WILHELM

"What did God command Abraham to put on the altar?"  
(after a pause)

"Now you know what the Father felt like in sending Jesus to die, but He did it. For our sake. For freedom's sake."

Stefan nodded, and closed his eyes to squint away his tears. Wilhelm put a hand on his father's shoulder.

WILHELM

"If you hesitate to do what you need to do to win, then you need to stay off the wall."

Stefan wags his head, sighing heavily, fighting off a sob.

STEFAN

"How can I slay my son for the Gospel?"