

## You're Still Here

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness <sup>2</sup> for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry.<sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."<sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'"<sup>5</sup> And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, <sup>6</sup> and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."<sup>8</sup> And Jesus answered him, "It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve."<sup>9</sup> And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,"<sup>11</sup> and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."<sup>12</sup> And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>13</sup> And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time. <sup>14</sup> And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup> And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. Luke 4:1-14

*A Sketch of the fight:*

**"The enemies of the soul are the devil, the flesh, and the world"**

-The Scriptures, 2,000+ years of ancient tradition, an honest look at our personal experience

### The Devil

being tempted by the devil

v2

*"The devil's primary strategy for leading the soul and society into ruin is **deceptive ideas** that play to **disordered desires** which are normalized in **a sinful society**"*

-John Mark Comer. Live No Lies

You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, **he speaks out of his own character**, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

John 8:44

**All temptation is an appeal to illusion, or the appeal to believe a lie**

## The lies the devil tells & desires us to live, deal with the questions ‘Who is God, who are we, & how do we live?’

And when they were ended, he was hungry.<sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.”...<sup>5</sup> And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time,<sup>6</sup> and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will.<sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.”

Luke 4:3-7

*“The counterfeit reality that we have welcomed into our soul will now grow as it collects around it other illusions and builds itself into a foundation of a life of falsity. **It is not so much that we tell lies as that we live them.** Worse still, we have become a lie.”*

-David Benner. Soulful Spirituality

## The Flesh

<sup>16</sup> But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.<sup>17</sup> **For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other,** to keep you from doing the things you want to do. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Galatians 5:16-24

## Our strongest desires **are not always** our deepest desires

*“I was held back, and I was held back not by fetters put on me by someone else, but by the iron bondage of my own will. From a perverse will came lust, and **slavery to lust became a habit, and the habit, being constantly yielded to, became a necessity.** These were the links [in my chain], and they held me fast in hard slavery.”*

-Augustine. Confessions

## The World

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. <sup>17</sup> And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

1 John 2:15-17

<sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise,  
Genesis 3:6

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food  
(Genesis 3:6)

<sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.”

### **Lust of the flesh**

and that it was a delight to the eyes  
(Genesis 3:6)

<sup>5</sup> And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, <sup>6</sup> and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will.

### **Lust of the eyes**

and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise  
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<sup>9</sup> And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’ <sup>11</sup> and “On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.””

### **The pride of life**

<sup>15</sup> I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.  
John 17:15-17

**God is not asking Christians to retreat; He is calling them to be rooted**

**The world around me does not get to make demands on the world inside me**

**The world around me doesn't get to dictate to me what it means to be human & what it means to live freely & fully**

**The world around me doesn't have a claim to my savior or my soul**

*A path to our victory:*

**Spiritual warfare isn't positive thinking, it's living into Spirit & Truth**

And Jesus, *full of the Holy Spirit*, returned from the Jordan and was *led by the Spirit* in the *wilderness*<sup>2</sup> for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And *he ate nothing* during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry  
Luke 4:1-2

And Jesus answered him, "It is written  
v4, v8, v12

I have stored up your word in my heart,  
that I might not sin against you.  
Psalm 119:11

I will meditate on your precepts  
and fix my eyes on your ways.

<sup>16</sup> I will delight in your statutes;  
I will not forget your word.

Psalm 119:15-16

Blessed is the man  
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;  
<sup>2</sup> but his delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.  
Psalm 1:1-2

Train up a child in the way he should go;  
even when he is old he will not depart from it.  
Proverbs 22:6

**The strategy for leading the soul & society into freedom & flourishing is living into truth that awakens & reorders desires cultivated in a spirit-filled community & strengthened by ongoing practices of grace**

*"I was mad and dying; but there was a sanity in my madness, life in my death; I knew how evil I was; I did not know how well I would be soon"*  
-Augustine. Confessions

*A man found worthy:*

And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

Revelation 5:5

“**Worthy are you** to take the scroll  
and to open its seals,  
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God  
from every tribe and language and people and nation,  
<sup>10</sup>and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,  
and they shall reign on the earth.”

Revelation 5:9-10

“**Worthy is the Lamb** who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might  
and honor and glory and blessing!”

Revelation 5:12

### **Jesus has conquered for our sake**

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8

He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Colossians 2:15

For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 5:10-11

**Freedom is not a pipe dream, it's found on the other side of **surrender & restraint****

**There's someone in need of **your restraint****

**The Grid:**

*Perspective:*

*There is a real time ongoing war for the soul that **Jesus has already won**. It allows for people to **receive His victory**, **fight from a place of victory**, **fighting for flourishing in life***

*Practice:*

*Create or strengthen **mental maps** through ongoing practices in community*

*Picture from the other side:*

***Progressive freedom, faithfulness, fruitfulness, & flourishing***