INTRODUCTION: D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones observed, “Anyone who is not aware of a fight and a conflict in a spiritual sense is in a drugged and hazardous condition.” All of us are in a fight with a powerful spiritual adversary named Satan. Today we are going to discover how Jesus Christ successfully defeated Satan’s plan to destroy God’s purpose for His life.


Luke 4:1-2    “1 And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led about by the Spirit in the wilderness 2 for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He became hungry.”

Four Times You Are Most Prone To Say Yes To Temptation

1. When you have just experienced a great success.
2. When you are tired.
3. When you are alone.
4. When you are waiting on God.

II. The Source Of Temptation (Luke 4:1-2; James 1:2-3)
James 1:2-3  “Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.”

James 1:13-14  “Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God’ for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.”

**Formula for Sin**

\[
\text{Corrupt Desire} + \text{Right Bait} + \text{Wrong Response} = \text{Sin}
\]

III. The Nature Of Temptation

A. Questioning God’s **Care** (Luke 4:3-4)

Luke 4:3  “And the devil said to Him, ‘If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.’”

Luke 4:4  “And Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE.’”

B. Questioning God’s **Wisdom** (Luke 4:5-8)

Luke 4:5-6  “And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, ‘I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.’”

Luke 4:8  “And Jesus answered and said to him, ‘It is written, YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY.’”
C. Questioning God’s **Timing** (Luke 4:9-13)

Luke 4:9-11  “9 And he led Him to Jerusalem and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, ‘If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here; 10 for it is written, HE WILL GIVE HIS ANGELS CHARGE CONCERNING YOU TO GUARD YOU, 11 and, ON THEIR HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, LEST YOU STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.’”

Luke 4:12  “And Jesus answered and said to him, ‘It is said, YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.’”

Luke 4:13  “And when the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.”

IV. Timeless Truths About Temptation

A. We Have a Real **Adversary**

1 Peter 5:8  “Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary the devil prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

B. We Have a Powerful **Resource**

1 John 4:4b  “...greater is He who is in you, than he who is in the world.”

Conclusion