
In Today's Thought you will see that the fifth *Powerful Influence of the WORD of God is that you are **TO LIVE by EVERY WORD that COMES OUT FROM the MOUTH of GOD!***

In Matthew 4:3 we hear the devil say to Jesus, *"If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."* To this Jesus then, in Mathew 4:4 answered, *"IT IS WRITTEN, 'Man will not live on bread alone, but ON EVERY WORD THAT COMES OUT OF the MOUTH of God.'"*

Jesus was here quoting Deuteronomy 8:3 where Moses reminds the people of Israel that the LORD, *"HUMBLED (them) and let (them) hunger and fed (them) with manna... that He might make (them) know that man does not live by bread alone, but MAN LIVES BY EVERYTHING THAT COMES FROM the MOUTH of the LORD."*

Before moving on, let me ask you, how is it that you are able to speak words? Is it not through the air you breathe out through our mouth that you speak words? You know that it is. I say this to remind you that the Words of the Bible are *GOD-BREATHED WORDS* [2 Timothy 3:16]!

Having reminded you of that truth, look at Deuteronomy 8:1 where you are taught the reason why you are to *LIVE BY EVERYTHING THAT COMES FROM the MOUTH of the LORD*. It is because God wants you to *BE CAREFUL TO DO ALL* that He has commanded you in the Bible, His God-breathed *WORD "that you MAY LIVE"* [Deuteronomy 8:1]!

Would it surprise you to learn that as God did then with Israel [Deuteronomy 8:2]; He may also do with you today. He may *HUMBLE* you through, *TESTING* you to know what is in your heart; whether you will *KEEP* His commandments or not? Consider that in 1 Corinthians 10:1-10, you are reminded of how God dealt with Israel in the wilderness. Now listen to what the Holy Spirit next moved Paul to write in 1 Corinthians 10:11 where you learn that, *"... these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come."*

Then in 1 Corinthians 10:12 Paul is moved to say that we should not think that we are better than the people of Israel in the wilderness. Here he is moved to write, *"Therefore,"* if you are one *"who thinks that they stand,"* you should *"take heed"* and *humble* yourself *"unless"* you *"fall"*!

Along with this warning, in 1 Corinthians 10:13 you can find encouragement when you read that, *No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to humanity. GOD IS FAITHFUL, and HE WILL NOT LET you BE TEMPTED BEYOND your ABILITY, but with the temptation He WILL ALSO PROVIDE the WAY of ESCAPE, that YOU MAY BE ABLE TO ENDURE IT.*

Now turn your attention to 1 John 2:15-17 where you can learn a valuable lesson on temptation. Here you are told that you should,

[15] ... not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in them. [16] For all that is in the world, the desires (lusts) of the flesh and the desires (lusts) of the eyes and (the lusts of the) pride of life, is not from the Father but is from the world. [17] And the world is passing away along with its desires (lusts), BUT WHOEVER DOES the WILL OF GOD ABIDES FOREVER.

These three, *"the desires (lusts) of the flesh; and the desires (lusts) of the eyes and pride of life"* are not

new. They originated in the Garden of Eden when the devil tempted Eve to eat the forbidden fruit. You are told in Genesis 3:6 that *“when the woman saw that the tree was good for food”, [the desire (lust) of the flesh]; “and that it was a delight to the eyes”, [the desire (lust) of the eyes]; “and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise”, [(the lust of the) pride of life] “she took of its fruit and ate....”*

Would it surprise you to know that Jesus in His humanity was subjected to these same three desires (lusts)? Look again at Matthew 4 and remember that in Matthew 4:2 you learn that Jesus had been fasting for forty days and forty nights, and He was hungry. Then in Matthew 4:3 as you saw above, *“... when the tempter came to Him, he said, ‘IF You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread’” [the desires (lusts) of the flesh].*

Then in Matthew 4:5-6 *“the devil took Him into the holy city; and he had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, ‘IF You are the Son of God throw Yourself down; for it is written, “He will give His angels charge concerning You”; and “On their hands they will bear You up, unless You strike Your foot against a stone”” [(the lust of the) pride of life].*

Lastly in Matthew 4: 8-9 *“the devil took Him to a very high mountain, and SHOWED Him all the kingdoms of the world, and their glory; and he said to Him, ‘All these things will I give You, if You fall down and worship me’” [the desires (lusts) of the eyes].*

Now listen to the lesson you can learn from the example of how Jesus answered these three temptations. To the *[the desire (lust) of the flesh]* Jesus answered with the Word of God saying, **“IT IS WRITTEN**, *“Man will live... by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God””* [Matthew 4:4]! The second temptation of *[the desire (lust of the) of the pride of life]* Jesus answered again saying **“IT IS WRITTEN**, *“You will not tempt the Lord your God””* [Matthew 4:7]! Lastly, when tempted with *[the desire (lust) of the eyes]*, Jesus answered again saying **“... IT IS WRITTEN**, *“You WILL worship the Lord your God, and Him only you will serve””* [Matthew 4:10]!

Lord willing, I will meet you here Tomorrow that we may learn more about the **POWERFUL INFLUENCES** of God’s **WORD**. Until then, always **SEEK** to **KNOW** Him better, and **ALWAYS** speak His **WORD** in **TRUTH**!

O Father God, I bring to You an offering of thanksgiving, that You have breathed the Words Your Holy Spirit moved men to write in the Bible. Teach us to always defeat the desires of our flesh and eyes and pride by speaking Your God-breathed Words of truth. Please accept our offering of thanksgiving today. Hear and answer us for we pray in the power and authority of Your Word and in the Name of Jesus Your Son. Amen!

Please meditate and pray on these things!

Louise and I pray this will help to both enlighten and encourage you to **know in a greater way** the **One** promising in His Word to never leave you or forsake you [Hebrews 13:5; Deuteronomy 31:6, 8]!

*BECAUSE HIS WORD TELLS ME I AM TO LIVE BY EVERY WORD
THAT COMES OUT FROM THE MOUTH of GOD! – tom*