

5.31.20

TWO POWERFUL PIECES OF SCRIPTURE:

- · PSALM 5I
- · PSALM 9I

BIBLE VERSES REFERENCED DURING SERMON:

- · James I:13-14
- · Galatians 5:16-17
- · Revelation I2:I0
- · John 8:44
- · Matthew 4:3
- · I Peter 5:8
- · Psalm II9:II
- · 2 Corinthians I0:3-4
- · Ephesians 6:13-17
- · Proverbs 28:13
- · Hebrews 2:18
- · Hebrews 4:15
- · I Corinthians I0:13
- I John 4:4
- · I John I:9
- · Romans 8:38-39
- · Jude 24-25

BIBLE STUDY:

- · Read James I:12-15
- · Does God tempt you?
- · Where is the origin of temptation?
- · Read Matthew 4:I-II
- · Why was Jesus led to be tempted by Satan?
- Meditate on the setting. Jesus was ALONE, in the desert, no help around Him. He was empty, had been fasting for 40 days and 40 nights. He was weak, most likely no sleeping well. He was at His physical weakest when Satan approached Him.
- · What was the first temptation? What was Satan trying to satisfy? How did Jesus respond? What book, chapter and verse did He quote?
- What was the second temptation? What was Satan trying to satisfy? Do not miss that Satan also quoted Scripture. What book, chapter and verse did Satan quote? How did Jesus respond? What book, chapter and verse did He quote?
- · What was the third temptation? What was Satan trying to satisfy? How did Jesus respond? What book, chapter and verse did He quote?
- · What was Jesus' weapon against Satan?



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Read Ephesians 6:10-18. This is the "Armor of God." List all the items and how they pertain to life. Notice that all items have to due with defense and protection except one. The only offensive weapon is the "sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God."

• There is power in the Word of God, it is your offensive weapon to strike against Satan just as Jesus did.

PERSONAL REFLECTION:

- Do you struggle with temptation and sin? Are you frustrated with constant failures in sin? What do you struggle with?
- · Do you believe that as a Christian, you should not have any temptation or sin? Why?
- · What did Pastor Rick mean when he said, "The problem is the very existence of the law makes me want to break the law."? What law is he talking about?
- · What is the purpose of a test in your life?
- · What is does temptation do in your life?
- · How have you been tested? How was it different than temptation?
- Do you believe that you are engaged in spiritual warfare? What does the idea of "spiritual warfare" mean to you?
- A constant theme is that we need Christian brothers and sisters in our lives; people who we can be real with, open and honest. People who will love on us, pray with us, pick us up when we are down, call us out and who we can confess our sins and struggle too. Who is that in your life? If you are married, your spouse may serve this purpose. However, I would go so far that even in marriage you need a close Christian brother or sister (same gender as you) that you can share things with; because in marriage there will be times of struggle and strife. You will need a strong Christian brother or sister that you can confide in about the struggle and that they can help remove the "scales" from your own eyes and help guide to peace and healing.
- Consider the discussion in the "Bible Study" section about the temptation of Jesus. Pastor Rick said, "He [Jesus] understands the intensity, the desire, the fight. Jesus can sympathize with our struggle." How important is it for you to know that Jesus has waded through the muck and the mire of temptation and sin just like you and I? How important is it for you to know that the Son of God humbled Himself so much that He had to deal with all the same physical, emotional and spiritual trials and temptations that you and I face? Jesus loves us, Jesus has been where we are, He knows our struggles because He has experienced them as well. He emerged victorious and sinless and now desires to reach out and grab hold of you. How does that help you in your struggle with sin and temptation?
- The next time you face sin and temptation, know that Jesus is on your side. Know that through Him, you CAN win. How does this change your emotional and spiritual state as you face sin and temptation? When going into war, which is better, a defeatist attitude or an attitude of I00% confidence in victory? Which are you going into battle with?
- · You sin has been forgiven, your sin tomorrow has been forgiven, your sin in three weeks has already been forgiven as well. Jesus did that for you. When David sinned in a most grievous way, he was confronted with sin, he humbled himself and sought God. Do you seek God or do you justify your sin? Own your sin, confess it, go to God's Word about it. Own that Jesus loves you and own Jude 24-25.