

PRAYER STUDY #96  
**The Three Main Temptations**

1<sup>st</sup> John 2:15-17: *Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, **the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life,** is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust of it; but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.*

Genesis 3:6: *And when the Woman saw that **the tree was good for food**[lust of the flesh], and **that it was pleasant to the eyes**[lust of the eyes], and **a tree to be desired to make one wise**[pride of life], she took of the fruit thereof and did eat and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat.*

Luke 4:1-13 *And Jesus, being full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, being forty days tested by the devil. And in those days He did eat nothing, and when they were ended, He afterward was hungry. And the devil said unto Him, "If thou be the Son of God, **command this stone, that it be made bread.**"[lust of the flesh] And Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God." And the devil, taking Him up into an high mountain, **showed unto Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.**[lust of the eyes] And the devil said unto Him, "All this authority will I give thee, and the glory of them; for that is delivered unto me and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou, therefore, wilt worship me, all shall be thine." And Jesus answered and said unto him, "Get thee behind me, Satan; for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord, thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." And he brought Him to Jerusalem and set Him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto Him, "If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from here; for it is written, **He shall give His angels charge over Thee, to keep Thee; And in their hands, they shall bear Thee up, lest at any time Thou shalt dash Thy foot against a stone.**"[pride of life] And Jesus answered, said unto him, "It is said, Thou shalt not put the Lord, thy God, to the test." And when the devil had ended all the testing, he departed from Him for a season.*

1<sup>ST</sup> John 2:16

NEW CENTURY VERSION: *These are the ways of the world: wanting to please our sinful selves, wanting the sinful things we see, and being too*

*proud of what we have. None of these come from the Father, but all of them come from the world.*

**THE MESSAGE:** *Practically everything that goes on in the world-wanting your own way, wanting everything for yourself, wanting to appear important-has nothing to do with the Father. It just isolates you from Him.*

**NEW LIVING TRANSLATION:** *For the world offers only the lust for physical pleasure, the lust for everything we see, and pride in our possessions. These are not from the Father. They are from this evil world.*

**NEW INTERNATIONAL:** *For everything in the world-the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does-comes not from the Father but from the world.*

<u>THREE TEMPTATIONS</u>	<u>THREE ANTIDOTES</u>	<u>THREE AREAS</u>
1. Lust of the Flesh	1. WORD OF GOD	1. BODY
2. Lust of the Eyes	2. WORSHIP	2. SOUL
3. Pride of Life	3. FAITH	3. SPIRIT

### Eye Gate

Isaiah 33:17a *Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty....*

Matthew 13:15-16 *For this people's heart is become gross and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and should understand with their heart and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see; and your ears, for they hear.*

### How to live in the World without being Wordly

Colossians 3:1-17: *Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits at God's right hand in the place of honor and power. Let heaven fill your thoughts. Do not think only about things down here on earth. For you died when Christ died, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. And when Christ, who is your real life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory. So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual sin, impurity, lust, and shameful desires. Don't be greedy for*

*the good things of this life, for that is idolatry. God's terrible anger will come upon those who do such things. You used to do them when your life was still part of this world. But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old evil nature and all its wicked deeds. In its place you have clothed yourselves with a brand new nature that is continually being renewed as you learn more and more about Christ, who created this new nature within you. In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us. Since God chose you to be a holy people whom he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. You must make allowances for each other's faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. And the most important piece of clothing you must wear is love. Love is what binds us all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are all called to live in peace. And always be thankful. Let the words of Christ, in all their richness, live in your hearts and make you wise. Use his words to teach and counsel each other. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, let it be as a representative of the Lord Jesus, all the while giving thanks through him to God the Father.*

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Neil Anderson's *The Steps to Freedom in Christ* pp.8-9

#### WAYS YOU CAN BE DECEIVED BY THE WORLD

1. Believing that acquiring money and things will bring lasting happiness(see Matthew 13:22 and 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6:10)
2. Believing that excessive food and alcohol can relieve your stress and make you happy(see Proverbs 23:19-21)
3. Believing that an attractive body and personality will get you what you need(see Proverbs 31:30; 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:3-4)
4. Believing that gratifying sexual lust will bring lasting satisfaction(see Ephesians 4:22; 1st Peter 2:11)
5. Believing that you can sin and get away without any negative consequences(see Hebrews 3:12-13)
6. Believing that you need more than what God has given you in Christ(see 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 11:2-4, 13-15)

7. Believing that you can do whatever you want and no one can touch you(see Proverbs 16:18; Obadiah 3:1; 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:5)
8. Believing that unrighteous people who refuse to accept Christ go to heaven anyway(see 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:9-11)
9. Believing that you can associate with bad company and not become corrupted(see 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:33-34)
10. Believing that you can read, see or listen to anything and not be corrupted(see Proverbs 4:23-27; Matthew 5:28)
11. Believing that there are no consequences on Earth for your sin(see Galatians 6:7-8)
12. Believing that you must gain the approval of certain people in order to be happy(see Galatians 1:10)
13. Believing that you must measure up to certain standards in order to feel good about yourself(see Galatians 3:2-3; 5:1)

#### WAYS YOU DECEIVE YOURSELF

1. Hearing God's Word but not doing what it says(see James 1:22)
2. Saying you have no sin(see 1 John 1:8)
3. Thinking you are something you are really not(see Galatians 6:3)
4. Thinking you are wise in this worldly age(see 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 3:18-19)
5. Thinking you can be truly religious but not bridle your tongue(see James 1:26)
6. Thinking that God is the source of your problems(see Lamentations 3)
7. Thinking you can live your life without the help of anyone else(see 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:14-20)

#### WAYS YOU WRONGLY DEFEND YOURSELF

1. Denial of reality(conscious or unconscious)
2. Fantasy(escaping reality by daydreaming, TV, movies, music, computer or video games, drugs, alcohol)
3. Emotional insulation(withdrawing from people or keeping people at a distance to avoid rejection)
4. Regression(reverting back to less threatening times)
5. Displaced anger(taking out frustrations on innocent people)
6. Projection(attributing to another what you find unacceptable in yourself)
7. Rationalization(making excuses for your own poor behavior)
8. Lying(protecting yourself through falsehoods)
9. Blaming yourself(when you are not responsible)and others
10. Hypocrisy(presenting a false image)