INTERCESSORY PRAYER - 10

Protection: "And Lead Us Not into Temptation, But Deliver Us from Evil" How to Consistently Defeat the Devil

I. INTRODUCTION.

- A. *Our war with Satan is called a good fight.* (1 Tim 6:12 KJV) Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.
- B. We win by praying, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."
- C. We win by putting on the whole armor of God and by building the hedge of protection around ourselves.

II. LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION.

- A. The origin, nature, and purpose of temptation.
 - 1. God tempts no man. (James 1:13 KJV) Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:
 - 2. The devil is the tempter.
 - a. (Mat 4:3 KJV) And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.
 - b. (1 Th 3:5 KJV) For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.
 - 3. Some trials are explicitly designed to lead to wrong doing.
 - a. (Luke 4:13 KJV) And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.
 - b. (Luke 8:13 KJV) They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.
 - c. (1 Tim 6:9 KJV) But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.
 - 4. Some temptations or trials arise from within, from uncontrolled appetites and evil passions.
 - a. (Mark 7:20 KJV) And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. (Mark 7:21 KJV) For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, (Mark 7:22 KJV) Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness:
 - b. Although temptation from within or from Satan does not proceed from God, He does observe His people while they endure it.
 - 5. There can be value in temptations and trials.
 - a. Some testings reveal our nature and help us realize our helplessness and dependency upon God.
 - b. Through them we can learn to be overcomers.

- c. Allow the Lord to gain great victory over Satan.
 - (1) (2 Pet 2:9 KJV) The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:
 - (2) (James 1:12 KJV) Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him
 - (3) Endurance is continuing to believe and act upon the Word of God in the midst of conflict.
- 6. Not uncommon. (1 Cor 10:13 KJV) There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

B. The reasons for Jesus' warning.

- 1. When Jesus commanded us to pray, "Lead us not into temptation," he was instructing believers to pray that forces beyond their own control would not lead them into trials.
- 2. He is also commanding believers to watch and pray against entering into temptation through their own carelessness or disobedience.
 - a. (Mat 26:41 KJV) Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.
 - b. (Luke 21:34 KJV) And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. (Luke 21:35 KJV) For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. (Luke 21:36 KJV) Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

C. We don't have to learn the hard way.

- 1. The things which happened to Israel were for examples and were written for our admonition.
- 2. We may be instructed, warned, and trained by the Word. (1 Cor 10:11 KJV) Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.
- 3. God would be pleased for us to learn many things in the Word and on our knees through the gentle, friendly instruction of the Holy Spirit.
- 4. (1 Cor 11:31 KJV) For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. (1 Cor 11:32 KJV) But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

D. Walking in the law of God.

- 1. (Psa 119:10 KJV) With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.
- 2. (Psa 119:133 KJV) Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me. (Psa 119:134 KJV) Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts.
- III. DELIVER US FROM EVIL. We prepare ourselves to stand in the victory Jesus has won for us by:
 - A. Putting on the whole armour of God.
 - 1. What the armor is.
 - a. Loins girt about with truth.
 - b. Breastplate of righteousness.
 - c. Feet shod with preparation of the gospel of peace.
 - d. Shield of faith.
 - e. Helmet of salvation.
 - f. Sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
 - g. Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.
 - 2. Truth, righteousness, the hope of salvation, readiness, faith, and the Word of God must be mixed with and empowered by prayer and supplication in the Spirit for maximum effectiveness.

IV. BUILD A HEDGE OF PROTECTION.

- A. *A faith declaration from Psalm 91:2.* (Psa 91:2 KJV) I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.
- B. Three reasons--or "becauses"--in Psalm 91:9, 14 why you can claim God's protection.
 - 1. <u>Because thou hast made the Lord thy habitation</u>. Make the Lord your habitation. Walk with Him in the Spirit, and He will be your refuge.
 - 2. <u>Because he hath set his love upon me.</u> What does it mean to set our love upon God?
 - a. (Psa 27:3 KJV) Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.
 - b. (Psa 27:4 KJV) One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple. (Psa 27:5 KJV) For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock. (Psa 27:6 KJV) And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing,

yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

- 3. Because he hath known my name.
 - a. (Prov 18:10 KJV) The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.
 - b. Knowing His name not only signifies who He is, but also what He wants to be in your life: righteousness, sanctifier, peace, presence, healer, provider, banner, and shepherd.
 - (1) Jehovah-tsidkenu Jehovah our righteousness.
 - (2) Jehovah-m'kaddesh Jehovah who sanctifies.
 - (3) <u>Jehovah-shalom</u> Jehovah who sanctifies.
 - (4) Jehovah-shammah Jehovah is there.
 - (5) <u>Jehovah-rophe</u> Jehovah heals.
 - (6) Jehovah-jireh Jehovah's provision shall be seen.
 - (7) <u>Jehovah-nissi</u> Jehovah my banner.
 - (8) <u>Jehovah-rohi</u> Jehovah my shepherd.
 - c. Declaration: "You are my refuge, my fortress, my God. In You do I trust. I know Your name. You are my righteousness, sanctifier, peace, healer, provider, banner, and shepherd, and Your presence dwells within me."
 - d. This is the way to pray a hedge of protection about yourself and your loved ones.