

# RECONNAISSANCE\*



<b>GOD'S RECONNAISSANCE FOR US</b>	<b>THE DEVILS RECONNAISSANCE AGAINST US</b>
<p>The Only Power the Devil has is the Power of Temptation – He has no other power. He cannot force us to do anything – only tempt us.</p>	<p>The Devil Tempts Us When We Are at Our Weakest:  <b>HALT: Hungry, Angry, Lonely, Tired; Also, when we are Bored &amp; Curious.</b></p>
<p><b>In the Power of the Holy Spirit We Are to Combat the Temptations of the Devil:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>I Have Trained My Eyes</u>: We must in the power of the Holy Spirit bounce &amp; starve our eyes. If we focus on the things that tempt us, we will commit the act of adultery in our minds &amp; perhaps it will eventually lead to physical adultery. (Job 1:31)</li> <li>2. <u>Walk by the Spirit</u>: If we guard our minds, then we will not have to worry about our minds taking our feet to places we do not desire to go. (Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4; Galatians 5:16)</li> <li>3. <u>The Humble Life</u>: God gives grace to the humble. Grace is the power to live the Christian life in the power of the Holy Spirit in us, with us, &amp; through us. When we humble ourselves before God &amp; rely on His strength, He spares us from the pitfalls of life. Humility recognizes our absolute dependence on God – not ourselves. (James 1:16-18)</li> </ol>	<p><b>The Devil Uses the Same 3 Temptations Every Time Because They Work without Fail:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>The Lust of the Eyes</u>: I can look at whatever I want &amp; it will not cause harm to me or to anyone else. What we take in through our eyes enters into our minds, and eventually our feet take us wherever our minds lead us. (Proverbs 7; Matthew 5:26-28; James 1:16-18)</li> <li>2. <u>The Lust of the Flesh</u>: Satisfy your physical needs through masturbation, promiscuous sex, and other forms of sexual immorality. (Romans 7:18)</li> <li>3. <u>The Pride of Life</u>: I don't need God. I am perfectly capable of meeting my own needs and desires. God opposes the proud. Those who live independently of Him &amp; His will, will fall and suffer the physical, spiritual, emotional, and mental consequences of their actions. (Proverbs 16:18; James 4:6, 10)</li> </ol>
<p><b>Areas We Must Guard Against Satan's Attacks:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Mind</u>: We must fill our minds with the things of God. Practice the spiritual disciplines on a daily basis: Scripture reading, memorization, meditation, &amp; application; journaling, prayer, confession, accountability, service, &amp; discipleship (Matthew 4:1-11; Philippians 4:8). We do not practice the spiritual disciplines for the sake of doing them, or with purity as priority. The top priority is a close, personal, &amp; intimate relationship with God through His Son Jesus Christ.</li> <li>2. <u>Will</u>: The will is our determination to act. The mind controls the will to perform a certain action – to give into the temptation or reject it. If we fill our minds with the word of God, we will be equipped to fight the battles and win (Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 6:10-18)</li> <li>3. <u>Body</u>: When we allow God's word to permeate our hearts and minds, we are transformed by the renewing of our minds and conformed to the image of His Son Jesus Christ in words, actions, deeds, and thoughts. This leads to physical, spiritual, emotional, and mental well-being. Physically we are free from disease and illness, and we have energy. Spiritually we have fellowship with God and one another. Emotionally we bear the fruit of the Spirit which is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,</li> </ol>	<p><b>Areas We Are Most Vulnerable to Satan's Attacks:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Mind</u>: Never carry on a conversation with the devil &amp; his demonic forces. If they can get you to believe their lies then you will be deceived and give into their temptations and be led into sin. The greatest sex organ we have is the mind &amp; all sin begins with a thought, &amp; our lustful thoughts are a product of our own desires, and thoughts the demonic forces of evil put into our heads. (2 Corinthians 11:3; James 1:12-15)</li> <li>2. <u>Will</u>: The will is our determination to act. The mind controls the will to perform a certain action – to give into the temptation or reject it. Satan and his demonic forces influence us through worldly and cultural values instead of the word of God, we will be moved to sin and pay the consequences through guilt, shame, depression, &amp; anxiety, etc.</li> <li>3. <u>Body</u>: When the demonic forces of evil have influenced our minds and wills, we are moved into action to sin. The body suffers physically, spiritually, emotionally, and mentally (Psalm 32:1-4). The physical body may suffer from sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), &amp; our sins sap us of all our energy. We suffer spiritually because we alienate ourselves from God &amp; others. We suffer emotionally from anger &amp; bitterness because that which we thought we were master over has now become our master.</li> </ol>

and self-control (Galatians 5:22-26). Mentally we experience peace, security, and contentment regardless of our situations or circumstances, because our strength is in Christ. Finally, when we practice the spiritual disciplines of confession & repentance on a daily basis, we are healed. Confession is most effective when we confess to both God & one another (Proverbs 3:1-8; 1 John 1:9; James 5:16).

4. Conscience: The conscience is a gift from God to tell the difference between right & wrong in accordance with God's laws. When our words, actions, deeds, and thoughts are in alignment with God's word and will, we have a clean conscience. Practicing the spiritual disciplines sharpens the godly conscience & keeps us free from falling victim to the deception of the demonic forces of evil, and guilt & shame (Romans 2:14-15; Acts 24:16). Furthermore, our conscience will also be clear from the accusations of the evil one who accuses us before God all day long (Revelation 12:10).

We suffer mentally from depression & anxiety because we have violated God's commands to be sexually pure.

4. Conscience: The conscience is a gift from God to tell the difference between right & wrong/truth & lie in accordance with God's laws. However, those who give into the false teachings of the demonic forces of evil will have their consciences seared, meaning they will no longer be able to tell the difference between the truth & a lie. That which was once right is wrong, and that which was once wrong is right and their conscience no longer bothers them, because it has become hardened & it is insensitive to its own feelings & the feelings of others. (Romans 1:18-32; 1 Timothy 4:1-3)

**GOD DOES NOT TEMPT US, BUT ALLOWS US TO BE TEMPTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:**

1. To test our faith & obedience (Job 1).
2. To test our self-control & reliance upon Him. (Job 1)
3. To show His love, grace, mercy, & power in the life of the believer in Christ. (2 Corinthians 12:19)
4. God never allows us to be tempted beyond what we can handle, and always provides a way out, relying on His power is the way out (1 Corinthians 10:13).