

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS I
John Wright Follette

(Hymn - Fairest Lord Jesus)

1. It is a holy and sacred thing to be in Thy presence. When Thou art moving about us, you bring a holy hush into our hearts. And we've been singing our thoughts back again to Thee this morning. Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature. The Son of God. The Son of Man. And we like these contrasts. How Thou dost move about all creation. But in every form, Thou art exalted and lifted up. And we love to adore Thee, bow before Thee. Worship...that all that there is in us may flow back again before Thee, in adoration and love and worship. Receive it this morning, receive it from our hearts. Much of it seems so broken and shattered. But receive it from our hearts. You don't have to look at all the things that are going on. But look at our hearts, Lord. And receive the worship and the praise that comes, moving up from our hearts back to Thee. We sometimes feel like asking you to excuse all the forms and strange things that have... ..to break through. But You look beyond all that. You're looking into us this morning; You're looking down at us, You're looking into our hearts. Then receive from our hearts what it isn't possible for us to express. But You can receive it. Now we're having a little time again with Thy Word. And we're praying the Holy Spirit may hide us away, but that He may take the Word of God and break it in every heart the portion that is adequate. You have broken the bread every morning these few days, and hearts have been fed and nourished and enlightened and instructed. And so now, as again, we open this wonderful Word of life, break it to our hearts good. Not merely for OUR growth and satisfaction, but Thou will be GLORIFIED thereby. And we seek THY glory, even in the growth and the maturity of our Spiritual life and being. It is unto Thee. Help us to keep our objective straight. The focus of our life straight. And teach us from Thy Word how to LIVE. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

2. I'm always so pleased when they would sing that hymn. To how many of you was this hymn "Fairest Lord Jesus," rather new? I'd just like to see. To how many was it rather new? Some. It's an old crusaders hymn, and it's blessed of God, and has been blessed in the Churches. And He's trying to bless it to our Pentecostal people too. I think we should be pleased to take what He give us. Portions which have been adequate and refreshing and good to members of His Body for many years before we were born, and many years before Pentecost came to us. He was yet blessing His own, and feeding them, and offering to them His life, His Word, His Truth. So now, He's come to OUR little place in life. Before I bring this little message that's on my heart, I want to thank you to your kindness to me. While I've been here, you've been very KIND to me in your Spirit. And I appreciate that more than I do money, or food, and things which are external. I'm not too conscious of that. I don't live in that. I'm not money conscious, or earth conscious, or even food conscious. I eat and go on, but those are SIDELINES with me. But I AM conscious of SPIRITS. And I'm conscious of ATMOSPHERE. And you have been so lovely to sit here morning after morning. I feel like saying, I thank you, I thank you, I thank you! Because you see, you RELEASE me. Your attitude of RECEPTION, your HUNGER, your DESIRE for Truth, RELEASES the messages that God has placed in me. I've been to places where the message has been in me, waiting to break, but there was no release; nobody would release it. And I had to go home burdened with that same thing. But you see, you have that POWER. It was in the days of Jesus the same. I told you the other day to look at the groups of people that surrounded Him. In their attitude of heart, they either RELEASED Him that he could minister, or they CLOSED him. And then I gave you the illustrations of it. That's true yet today in the Spirit. For it's the same Spirit that was moving in Him, that's moving in you and me. There's only ONE Holy Spirit. Just ONE. That SAME Holy Spirit, in all this delicacy and refinement, and intense penetration; that's the SAME Spirit that's in you and me. And so, I thank you for the KINDNESS that you have shown me to LISTEN. The MINISTRY of the Word is not a BURDEN to me. PEOPLE disturb me. Never THE TRUTH. This is lovely. It refreshes my heart, often, when it POURS THROUGH ME. It POURS through me. They say, "Aren't you tired?" No. That NEVER tires me. PEOPLE exhaust me. SPIRITS torment me. But never THIS. This is the lovely Word; that's full of LIFE. It's full of LIFE. It REFRESHES me. So you have been good to listen, and I thank you, and I hope that you'll take the

bread that's been broken, and ask God to help you to EAT it, to make it a PART OF YOU. Don't be disturbed, I'll give you a little advice, because I feel like a father in Israel, dealing with his children. I'm older than you, and I can give a little word of advice, for I've lived longer. I do it in all kindness. Now, don't become too DISTURBED if you are not able to make manifest in your life, if you are not able yet to see the FRUITAGE of it manifest, don't be DISTURBED. It takes a LIFETIME for the Truth to really take hold of us and TRANSFORM US and CHANGE US. Don't look for any "short-cuts." THERE ARE NONE. There's no QUICK method. He has ONE method, and He uses that method CONTINUALLY. It's "precept upon precept, word upon word, here a little, there a little." It's NEVER, "Now sit still and I'll give it to you!" Don't make a PATTERN, "Now I'm going to wait on God FOUR hours every day!" I would advise you NOT to do that unless the Lord BURDENS you so you can't live WITHOUT doing it! But never do it "voluntarily." HE has to direct your heart. HE has to direct you. Never try to FIT YOUR LIFE into SOMEONE ELSE'S pattern. It won't FIT you. We are all very distinctly INDIVIDUAL. And God DEALS with us as DISTINCT INDIVIDUALS. Therefore the method which He may use in bringing the Truth to me, may be VERY DIFFERENT than the method with YOU. The LAWS are THE SAME. But the method by which the LAW BECOMES EXPRESSIVE; that's all different. But the LAWS are still the same. So don't be disturbed and don't be discouraged. Take what you are able to take and let God bless that to you. You CAN'T do it in a year, or five years. I've said before, I've been working in this field, in this REALM OF THE SPIRIT over 50 years. The Lord filled me with the Spirit over 51 years ago. (in 1908) I've been in there...I SEE the Truth. He blessed it through me. I give CONSENT to it. I ACCEPT it, and I begin the WORKINGS of it, but do you know, there are Truths which now, at this age, I am able to take ahold of, which I had embraced with all my heart and thought I understood at least SOME of it 20 years ago. So you see, you CAN'T. REMEMBER. The HEART is CONTINUALLY CONDITIONED for the RECEPTION of the Word or for the Truth. You cannot accepted it in another way. You may DESIRE it. But God has to continually work in your heart to PREPARE IT. CONDITION IT. So that when we come before the Truth, the Truth is before us, there is RECEPTIVITY. He appreciates and loves that more than anything. I thank you for your offering, which I take by faith; I believe it's somewhere. I thank you for that; that's the way I live, and God knows that, so He provides my needs that way.

3. This morning I want to help you again. Whether you believe it's possible again, I don't know. I WANT to help you. I want to take a portion of the scripture and read it; it's a very, very familiar incident in the life of Jesus, and I want to give just a little exposition. I'm still in the teaching mood. I'm not a preacher; I'm not an evangelist. I'm a teacher, and therefore I have a right to what belongs to the teacher's field. I have a right to reiterate. That's the teachers's prerogative. I have a right to do that, because in teaching you HAVE to do it. You receive an impact of Truth and you accept it, and you hear it again, and you accept it, and it may be three or four years before the real POWER of that will grip your heart. It may be five years before the real POWER of it...He spoke of HAVING the Word, but denying the POWER OF IT! You HAVE the Word, but you don't have the POWER OF THE WORD, the AUTHORITY of that Word in your inner being doing these strange things! There's a difference between HOLDING the Word, HAVING the Word...they HAD the Word, but not the POWER of that Word. The Word becomes a POWER; it's a POWERFUL, strange ministering agent. The Word of God. So I want to take a text over here, a portion. And those of you who have Bibles, if you want to read it with me, you may do that. If you want to take your Bibles and read it with me, then I ask you to kindly lay the Bible DOWN, and don't look up a lot of references, and paroose and smoogle around in the Bible when I'm TALKING. That's...it really RUDE on your part, it's not good etiquette. But some people don't know there's etiquette even in the realm of the Spirit. There's etiquette in the realm of the Spirit. When I'm ministering the Word, never start paroosing it, fuddling around in the Bible. If I say, "Open the Word, and we will read it together," that's all right. But when I'm trying to pour out the Truth and you're..."Heziciah 4:7...yes, I think that was over in this part too, in here..." Don't do that. Please. Please don't do that. Some places I've ask them to please leave the Bibles at HOME. Because there's such a temptation to fool around in

it! Read your Bible when I ask you, and read it at home. But NEVER when I'm ministering, I don't want somebody...reading. It isn't good etiquette, dear, to begin with. And it's very disconcerting to ME. So you do me that kindness.

4. Now all of us who want to read, we're going to turn to the Gospel of Matthew, and we're going to read a portion of the 4th verse. (chapter) A very, very, very familiar portion. Matthew 4. Now I'll read it aloud for those who don't have their Bibles. "THEN was Jesus led of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the Devil. And when He had fasted 40 days and 40 nights, He was afterward hungry. And when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If Thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread!" But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.'" Then the Devil taketh Him up into the Holy City, setteth Him on the pinnacle of the Temple, and saith unto Him, "If Thou be the Son of God, cast Thy self down. For it is written, 'He shall give His angels charge concerning Thee. And in their hands they shall bear Thee up, lest at any time, Thou shall dash Thy foot against a stone.'" Jesus said unto him, "It is written again, 'Thou shall not tempt the Lord Thy God.'" Again the Devil taketh Him up into an exceeding high mountain. And showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them. And he said unto Him, "All these things will I give Thee, if Thou wilt fall down and worship me." Then said Jesus unto him, "Get thee hence, Satan! For it is written, 'Thou shalt worship the Lord Thy God, and Him only shalt Thou serve!'" Then the Devil leaveth him. And behold, angels came and ministered unto Him."

5. Now, that's a long story, isn't it, for a morning message? If you pray for me; I hope you do, I hope I can UNBURDEN, and get out of my Spirit, and off of my heart, the Truth that God wants us to have concerning this very, very, very familiar story which we have read so many, many times. When I read it, He always opens up something FRESH, however, it's all IN there. People say, "Well, I read it..." Well, I WANT you to. Now LISTEN. Don't be DISTURBED in your reading, that you are not able to BRING OUT what I'm bringing out. That isn't your MINISTRY, that's MY ministry. That's MY ministry. However, God may see good to illuminate some of it to you, according to your capacity. He will give it to you. Then don't get UNDER A STRAIN. Spiritually-minded people DO this, and it's dangerous, and I often have to correct them on it. Don't get under a STRAIN to try to find the SPIRITUAL, MYSTICAL, SENSE of the thing, in the Word, or the story. Take TIME until God can do that. You have to time. Don't surmise, sit down, "Now, now...He's telling us a story about the seed. What is a seed? Where's a seed? Wherrrrrdididitty... ." PLEASE don't do that! If you DO, you will PUSH in and come out with a very STRANGE interpretation. Let GOD speak that to you. The Holy Spirit knows who you ARE. He know who I am. If you try to do that because you think you ought to have "what the Word really says," you will get some rather fantastic things, and they aren't wholesome! Read quietly. Read with your heart open, and then let God when He sees good, start OPENING that little word to you. He won't do much maybe in the first day. Sometimes He may be weeks. I have tarried over five to six verses, relative to one subject, TWO YEARS! THREE YEARS! And did I get the answer, no...no, not completely! But I'm "feeling" my way through. I don't rush back, "This is THIS!" No. It has too many various...ramifications, I call it! Detail places, out here, there, and yonder. You'll have to learn how to do that, but be PATIENT. I want you to be students of the Word. God WANTS us to. He wants us to. So when we come to this Word, read it, and just as far as you are able to take, ask the Holy Spirit to illuminate that, illuminate it as far as able, and then don't get STRAINED about it! That's dangerous. And I feel it in the Spirit, so many times in things, where people try to be holy, and good, and want to do, and want to read, and want to understand. There's a strange, subtle, strained...spirit. I always want to say, "Now...relax! Forget it. Put your Bible down. Go out for a walk." And that's the only way.

6. Now, this story is the story of the temptation. Now your book are down. Now I want to ask you something. This is the story of the temptation. Some of our will know the question that I'm going to ask. Without looking, how many of you can tell me how this

story STARTED? Now, don't look. Don't look! Nobody look. I'll mark off on your "examination" if you do. No. You're not going to look. How many of you notice how this lovely story starts? Well, it starts with such a strange word. "THEN was Jesus led of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted." Why doesn't it say, "And it CAME TO PASS that Jesus was led."? It can't read that way. It can't read, "And Jesus was led of the Spirit..." IT CAN'T! Why? Because you've got to put the word, "THEN" in there. "That little word?" Uh hum...that little word is going to govern VERY MUCH that is to follow. Just that little word, "THEN was Jesus led." Now be careful of that because sometimes your interpretation of a word or a bit of Truth will be MARRED if you don't watch out for it. We spoke on the baptism of the Holy Spirit the other day, in which we analysed the question of the WITNESS. Now, don't look. How many of you know HOW that verse starts? Where He tells us that if we tarry in Jerusalem, we shall be filled with the Spirit and we shall BECOME His witnesses? Now, without looking, how many of you know how that verse starts? It starts with the word, "BUT." "BUT ye shall receive the Holy Spirit, the power of God, the Holy Spirit coming upon you, and you shall become unto me my WITNESS..." Then it ALL opens, but it starts with "BUT." Well, why does it start with "BUT?" You won't appreciate the fact that He's beginning a brand new economy of building a Body, a WITNESS, unless you know why He says...well, I'll tell you. You look it up when you go home; don't look it up now...now don't you dare do it! If you do, I'll STOP! I won't talk to you! I just won't! Now, you have to get the setting of that. What has PRECEDED it, just in the verses before? Well, the Jews were so set on a material kingdom. So SET in their spirit, it was a FIXATION. It had been merely a COMPLEX, but they'd had developed into a horrid FIXATION, that you could hardly DEAL WITH THEM AT ALL! "Kingdom, kingdom, material kingdom...bugles, and banners, and horses and chariots, and POWER! And get the Messiah on the throne where He can reign and rule! And He's demonstrating all this, why doesn't He come to town and have it established?!" Well Jesus went to heaven and He never established any kingdom like that in the world, because He didn't come for it! He's coming AGAIN to establish a kingdom, but not NOW. You have to have the Lamb before you have the KING. But you see, they have PERSISTED in this...this desire for a material kingdom. All of His ministry, His teaching, all of His miracles, were brought down to a physical, material level for their interpretation. And they interpreted Him, His message, His teaching; they interpreted ALL OF THAT in the terms of the material world in which they lived. And when He talked about a kingdom, INSTANTLY they thought, "Well, NOW HE WILL HAVE A KINGDOM!" Well, you know, it's a "terrible" thing to have all that KNOCKED OUT of anybody! But GOD has a very WONDERFUL WAY of just KNOCKING THINGS OUT OF PEOPLE! He can't do it any other way, He just has to bring a total and terrifying COLLAPSE of the whole thing, and He says, "PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE! It ISN'T this way, it's THIS WAY!" Now, don't start, "BUT-ING" the Lord! "But...LORD!!" DON'T "BUT" THE LORD!! Love Him and WORSHIP Him. Now, He knows exactly what He is doing! And even though He upsets in your little frame, your little pattern, some things that you would think you would DIE if you didn't have them---YOU AREN'T GOING TO DIE. He's going to give you SOMETHING BETTER. But that PRESENT SITUATION isn't what He WANTS!

7. So, they're up on the side of the mountain, and He's about to leave them. And the LAST QUESTION that any disciple ever asked the Lord, the LAST QUESTION that those disciples ever asked the Lord, did not relate to the great, wonderful scheme of salvation. It didn't relate to Calvary, it didn't relate to the resurrection. It didn't relate to any of this great, phenamenal moving of God Almighty, GOD ALMIGHTY IN THEIR MIDST!!.... ...DID NOT MOVE THAT FIXATION!!! It STILL PERSISTED!! KINGDOM!!! So, the LAST QUESTION after He's gone through the agonies and torture of Calvary, and God has raised Him from the dead; they still are dragging around with Him and sit on the side of the hill, and the very last question that they ever ask Him is: "Lord, will Thou AT THIS TIME restore to Israel THE KINGDOM?" Now, that's the last question. Now what was His ANSWER? Then you'll get this. "And He answered them and said, 'The times, and all of that great scheme; that's in GOD'S hands. IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW!!!" "But Lord!" "IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW!!! Down goes with a crash, all that strange structure which they had built in their thinking, and wondering, and desiring. "The kingdom...the

kingdom...and He's called us to the kingdom...He's shown His power for the kingdom... and now He says...'It is not for you to KNOW!'" "This materialistic idea of a kingdom in you, I will have to WASH IT OUT THOROUGHLY!! With a most TRAGIC DISSAPPOINTMENT!!! DISASTEROUS!!! I WANT IT DISASTEROUS!!! TO EXPLODE that strange thing which you still cling to. IT IS NOT FOR YOU!!" Now He starts the next sentence. "BUT...BUT!!!!" Here's the ALTERNATIVE! Do you get it or don't you? "THIS is not for you, BUT THIS IS!!" Do you get it? Right away! "THIS IS NOT FOR YOU, BUT you shall receive power after you get back here and you wait, and I will start the most magnificent thing, which will push it's way down through the ages. I will begin the mysterious BODY OF CHRIST, and you shall be the first, little charter members; the first little nucleus of a BODY, which will throb and live for years to come!" I'd like to preach on the DIVINE SUBSTITUTES of the Lord. They are MAGNIFICENT. Where He DARES to take out of your trembling hands, the very TREASURE that you have...you felt you...oh...He will say, "Not THIS..." "Oh, but Lord...I'll die..." "No, you won't die..." "Lo..." "You won't die. Now GIVE it to Me." And He TAKES it and He THROWS it...clean away from your THOUGHT!! And He says, "THIS is what I have for you. THIS is what I have." Now, in the gospels, you can't find ONCE, where those disciples ever referred again to that kingdom. Isn't that strange? You can't find a reference, I've looked! You can't find a reference. They were BRAINWASHED, as we say. They were thoroughly brainwashed! And He SWEPT from them, ...how? By bringing them a DIVINE SUBSTITUTE..."This idea that you're holding, that you want this material kingdom; THIS isn't for you, BUT!! You shall receive power--THIS IS!"

8. So here's just one little illustration. Here's one more before I get in here, and while I'm in there, I want to show you one, so you'll know how to read. Do you remember that wonderful 21st chapter of John? Now, HOW does that start? It starts this way: "AFTER THESE THINGS Jesus showed Himself showed Himself to the disciples in this fashion." And then we always go, dabbling on, to see how He's going to show Himself, and have the miracle..." now WAIT! Wait! Wait, wait, wait! You will never appreciate, or VALUE the fulness of THAT, until you go back to the antecedent, "AFTER THESE THINGS..He does "this." Well, "THIS" will only be understood in the light of "THESE THINGS." Won't it? Can you see? Yes, that's right. "After THESE things, He shows Himself thus..." Well, then the SHOWING, the MANIFESTATION, the lovely thing He's going to do, will be interpreted, understood, and evaluated, appreciated, only in the light of the things which have happened. "AFTER THESE THINGS, He shows Himself thus..." This Bible is a wonderful book, children! It just is a WONDERFUL book! It isn't like any other book in the world, because it isn't of the world. It's not put together like pieces of literature in the world. It has a DIVINE ARRANGEMENT, and I tell my students so many times, "Never TAMPER with it. Leave it as it IS. If you do not understand what it means, GO ON WITH GOD! He isn't guaranteed to explain everything!" No. Go ON. Now there's another one. You can go through the Word of God; there are several that would make a morning's message. It would make a morning's message. Why? Because the FORCE AND THE POWER OF THE TRUTH which is to follow such a strange introduction as, "BUT ye shall receive...;" well, you'll never appreciate that great building of the witness, until you see it in CONTRAST to the kingdom over here which they WANTED. He didn't want to finish that; He didn't WANT that! He says, "I want to make a WITNESS, and I will use you for...now STOP fussing around about a kingdom! It is NOT FOR YOU." "When?" Why, He says, "IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW." Supposing, those poor, dear disciples, who were so dissatisfied because they couldn't get this Messiah to "messiah" properly, and couldn't get the kingdom, supposing when they said, "WILL you at this time restore the kingdom!?!?" Now supposing Jesus had turned to them and said, "My dear children. You ask Me WHEN? Well, two thousand years from NOW, while we're talking, people will YET BE EXPECTING THE KINGDOM!" How many think they'd have got up and said, "Hallelujah!?" No, they'd all DROP DEAD! So He didn't want them DEAD, He wanted them ALIVE, so He didn't say it. But I think probably, they would have probably died dead, because you can't TAKE Truth. People say, "Oh, oh, Lord!! Tell me!!" He CAN'T!! You'd DIE! "SHOW me!" He CAN'T SHOW YOU! Don't do those fussy, funny things! Reduce your whole Christian experience to the SIMPLICITY of just WALKING ALONG WITH HIM, and LOVING Him, and WORSHIPPING Him, and letting Him LEAD YOU. Don't be too concerned with the..."TRUUUUUTH!..." Don't do that!

You'll be DEFEATED! "Why?...?" I don't know. "Why?" I don't KNOW. It isn't for ME to know. "Well...well..." No, now don't "well!" Just say, "Oh! Uh hum..." And go right along with the Lord. Now, people can't do that. It's very difficult, because these strange HANG-OVERS are in them. He COULDN'T tell them. "When? Will you NOW restore the kingdom?" "My dear folks!" He could have said, "Tell you NOW about that kingdom thing? Why two thousand years down the road, people will yet be preaching, and expecting, and longing, and praying for that kingdom. So where are YOU? You'd better be occupied with what I have to say. Now, we'll DROP this kingdom. Now DROP it! FORGET IT! LEAVE IT! THIS is for what you have been designed. THIS!!" So they walked out in it. Does THAT help some of you? Does it help some of you? etc.

9. Now, there's a strange principle in here, that operates in your Christian experience and mine too in dealing with the Lord, and the Lord's dealing with you and me. If we don't understand these little principles, we will be frustrated, disappointed, down-hearted, upset, and confused! But we don't have to be that way. How does this little word start? "THEN was Jesus led of the Spirit up into this wilderness to be tempted of the Devil." When? Well, it says, "THEN." Well, WHEN IS "THEN?" "THEN was He led..." Good! Well, WHEN is "THEN?" THEN was He led. Well, WHEN? Now, I'll read it; don't you peek! Don't you peek! Naughty! Naughty! I'll mark you down! Listen. I want to read the last two verses of the 3rd chapter, the last two verses of your 3rd chapter before I read you this 4th. This is the way the last two verses read. "And Jesus, when He was baptised, went up straightway out of the water, and lo, the heavens were opened unto Him. And he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon Him. And lo, a voice from heaven saying, 'This is My Beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.'" THEN was Jesus led of the Spirit into this tragic doing! When? AFTER heaven had opened, and God the Father had BORN WITNESS as to His identity; WHO He is. And God had born witness to the fact that He was WELL PLEASSED with Him. "WELL PLEASSED" with Him. And calls Him, "My Beloved Son." Now, up to this time, you see, He has had to go through His life, from the little babe borne by Mary, up to THIS time, before heaven had been opened at all to give any IDENTIFICATION. It says in Luke that the people supposed Him to be the son of JOSEPH! And they did. Nobody knew He was the Son of God walking around! No, no! These Sunday School pictures, they ought to be all thrown out because they are MISLEADING! And you bring little children up to think that's the way it was. It wasn't that way. Jesus walked those streets of Nazareth, and went to the feasts and everything, just like any PEASANT would. He was known as the Son of Joseph. He wasn't know as the Son of God! He was know as the Son of Joseph! It took REVELATION to bring THAT! And that, not until the very LAST of THREE YEARS of being EXPOSED TO HIM! And finally He dug it out of them, He said, "Now here! I've been with you all this time and I've walked with you...you've known Me from the time I was born! Who do you think I AM?" He had to DIG it out! Because they had no real KNOWLEDGE as to His REAL identity. And it took ALL that time, before Peter had the "blindners" knocked off of him so that he could SEE PROPERLY. He was always seeing Jesus just as this Messiah who's come "to do this, and come to do that," until the Lord unbuckled the blinders, and they fell off of them, and he said, "Ooooh! YOU ARE THE MESSIAH! But MORE...THOU ART THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD!" And what does Jesus SAY? He tells him, "That is through REVELATION AND NOT STUDY!" He says, "Flesh and blood didn't bring you THAT! You didn't get that from any traditional preaching of the priests! But the SPIRIT OF GOD HAS REVEALED MY IDENTITY TO YOU!" And He took him up on it. Well WHEN was that? At the tail-end of His ministry. They were STILL quarreling when He was here about that kingdom and who would be the GREAT ONE IN IT! An ambitious woman, coming down with her children, "Will You put one on the right hand, and one on the left hand?" Well, what idea did that poor woman have of what HE was doing? The most LIMITED! I think He must have been the MOST LONELY CREATURE THAT EVER WALKED THE EARTH! LONELY... not LONESOME! You can be LONESOME...and you can be LONELY. He was LONELY. For there was no one to know what it was all about. Even the disciples. Philip! "Well...show us the FATHER!" This is at the end. "Now, that will clear us up so we'll know about it!" "Phillip. Have I been so long time with you, and yet thou hast not known the FATHER? You don't know WHO I AM? You don't know WHAT this is about? Have I been ALL

this while, with all this marvelous manifestation, and it doesn't register yet in you?" And HE'S a disciple. Where do you think WE'RE coming in, dear? I don't know. If a disciple in the IMMEDIATE PRESENCE were as shallow in their understanding, and LIMITED in their concern, WHERE ARE WE? Two thousand years later, with the Church off the beam, and everything else off the beam; where do you think we're coming? Well, I'll tell you. WE'RE COMING HOME TO GOD. Come along. WE'RE COMING HOME TO GOD; just COME ALONG. Come along...come along. But there is so much for us to HAVE before we GET THERE. There is so much for us to KNOW.

10. So HERE, God opened the heavens, and He CLEARED the atmosphere. He says, "You want Me to make a DECLARATION? THIS IS MY BELOVED SON...IN WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED!" All right. Now, when we approach this story of this TEMPTATION, I want you to remember something, or you won't get it straight. Now I want you to get THIS. When Jesus Christ walked the earth, He was a two-fold manifestation. The first,...the first is the MANIFESTATION BACK AGAIN TO GOD OF WHAT A PERFECT MAN SHOULD BE. Therefore, He bore THE HUMAN FRAME. Not only the HUMAN BODY, but He was a partaker of the HUMAN NATURE! The NATURE of man! He bore that. TWO MARKS. The nature of man as God created Adam was that he was LIMITED to move within the structural law of the human being. He was made LIMITED upon God, for he has NO POWER OF HIMSELF. Now that man, in the beginning; that's ADAM without any sin or failure! He wasn't LIMITED AND DEPENDENT because he SINNED, he is LIMITED and he is DEPENDENT upon God, because GOD MADE HIM THAT WAY!! BEFORE there is any testing or proving! He is MADE that way, and God says He is PLEASED with it! God LOOKED UPON His creation. He LOOKED upon Adam. And He knew He had made him a LIMITED CREATURE, to LIVE WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE HUMAN NATURE...there is the DIVINE NATURE, angelic nature, human nature, and animal nature. Now in the Word of God, all these four natures play a wonderful part. They're ALL needed. And the creatures that bound in the LAW of that, function within the bounds of that law. And in the LAW that governs the human concept of life that God made Adam, God made him LIMITED AND DEPENDENT! He is PLEASED with him, and God said He was PLEASED. But you see, He couldn't say He was pleased with Adam because he had come forth and MANIFESTED THE CHARACTER which was to be coming. He hadn't FUNCTIONED at all. He was merely the CREATURE that God made, and God says, "I am PLEASED." But God didn't just make a man, Adam and Eve, to STAND AROUND IN A GARDEN! No. He MADE THEM FOR HIS GLORY, and they could only glorify Him BY CONTINUALLY DOING HIS WILL! And as the WILL OF GOD, it moves down, and they CHOOSE the WILL OF GOD, because he is a rational being with THE POWER OF CHOICE, because that's SO, he will have to learn to MAKE A CHOICE. You can't make your choice over ONE THING. That's all "settled;" it's THERE. You HAVE TO HAVE at least TWO, if not THREE, before you can make a CHOICE! He is a CHOOSING creature. And his WHOLE LIFE WILL REST WITHIN THE EMBRACE OF HIS WILL. You and I live this morning IN OUR WILLS. It's what God sees we WILL TO DO.

That last part of this teaching was duplicated at the beginning of TESTING AND PROVING II, and the transcript of it is included there.

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS II
John Wright Follette

1. You and I live this morning in our WILLS. It is what God sees we WILL TO DO. We LIVE in there. My whole life is focused, is expressed, becomes demonstrated through the power of my WILL. I HAVE a will. I can CHOOSE to please God. I can choose to do HIS WILL, or I can choose to do MY WILL. That is the way we are MADE. God never COHERSES anyone. He likes it a VOLUNTARY OFFERING.
2. And so, Adam had to be subjected to the LAW...now here are your LAWS again. You get tired of me talking about laws and principles? Well, dear...folks, in this REALM OF THE SPIRIT where God has brought us to LIVE, there are LAWS and PRINCIPLES, TECHNIQUES and METHODS, just AS REAL, only they are ABSTRACT, and you don't see them. We are used to all these laws HERE. They are JUST AS REAL there. And here is a law---CHARACTER is brought forth, CHARACTER is built, UNDER THE LAW OF TESTING AND PROVING. He (Adam) is perfect, as far as the mechanism of his being is concerned, but he has not FUNCTIONED. So God says, "I will subject you to this LAW OF TESTING AND PROVING." And GOD put the tree in the garden. GOD planted the Tree of the Choice of Good and Evil! He HAD to, to him to EXERCISE HIS POWER OF CHOOSING! You can't EXERCISE your power of choosing unless you have SOMETHING TO CHOOSE! And you NEVER GROW unless you do it. There are STAGNANT people...well, they are "static-like." No. That's the way the thing is arranged, and so we have to ACCEPT it. Know it and accept it.
3. Now, when JESUS comes, He has to "play the part" before God, of the PERFECT MAN. Therefore, He takes upon Himself the NATURE...not the BODY; He HAD a body. That's NATURAL, too. It COULD PERISH. It got hungry. It HAD to sleep. It had to eat. It was a HUMAN MECHANISM. He HAD a body, same as you and I have. But He BORE also, THE NATURE OF THAT ADAM. Now, Adam had that nature, and there was NO sin about it. Jesus had NO SIN about Him; He NEVER SINNED. There was NO SIN IN HIM. But I'll tell you what He DID have. He had the HUMAN NATURE into which He voluntarily CHOSE TO MOVE! So He took that thing and WRAPPED IT ABOUT HIM! But INSIDE, He is ETERNALLY THE SON OF GOD! The Eternal Son of God. One of the Trinity. The Eternal Son of God. But, He has chosen to LIMIT HIMSELF, and LAY ASIDE so much! NOT HIS DIETY! NOT HIS DIVINITY! No, no. He still MAINTAINS THAT, but He said, "I will throw about Me this HUMAN NATURE, with it's LIMITATION, and with it's UTTER DEPENDENCE." Why? "Because I have to BE THE LAST ADAM. There WAS a first one. I have to BE before God the LAST ADAM." What else does He have to be? THE PERFECT MAN that God wanted Adam to BECOME! Therefore, Paul is very careful to say, "There is ONE MEDIATOR between God and man,...Jesus the Son of God?" No, he doesn't say THAT, however He IS that...but THAT isn't what he says. Be careful what he says. "One Mediator!" Who is He? He says He is, "...The MAN...CHRIST...," that's the ANNOINTED, "...JESUS!" That's the HUMAN! The tremendous, marvelous COMBINATION. NOT God and Man, He is the GOD-MAN!!! He is GOD-MAN!! And He becomes the MEDIATOR. And God is pleased.
4. So now you see He has come up to this period in His manhood. He is walking under the LIGHT THAT HAD COME TO HIM IN THE TEMPLE. Elevation, Revelation, Descent, Demonstration. The rhythm...that's the rhythm in which He moved CONTINUALLY. Absolutely. And so, since that is true, He has come thus far in this wonderful IDENTIFICATION WITH MAN, sinless...sinless...absolutely! BUT--He has CHOSEN TO BE LIMITED!! To MAN! And DEPENDENT AS A MAN!! Now, when Jesus prayed, and sought the will and the ways of God, do you think He did that for a "performance," and all the time "He was just God anyway.?" No, it was never that way at all. He is that ETERNAL SON, WRAPPED ABOUT IN THIS PRISON HOUSE OF A HUMAN CONCEPT OF LIVING, and He CHOSE that, so that WHEN HE PRAYED, He HAD to pray! There was NO FARCE about it! No...no. LIMITED...in that form in which He moved, there were THINGS THAT HE COULDN'T DO! Why? Because He is BEARING THE FORM OF THE HUMAN. But, He IS demonstrating...He IS demonstrating, what THAT PERFECT HUMAN BEING SHOULD HAVE DONE! And in there is a good lesson; I don't dare to get in it, some

of you might think it's "funny." But I wish you would make a DISTINCTION when you read of Jesus walking and moving. Can you distinguish between a SUPERNATURAL MANIFESTATION OF GOD, HERE, and also a MANIFESTATION of a miracle that comes from HIM? Now He moves...many times when people think, "That was just God." No. It was the forces and power of an IDEAL, PERFECTED, HUMAN CONCEPT OF LIFE, WITHOUT SIN, LIMITED AND DEPENDENT, that could DO things. I could show you a few, little pictures of it. He told Adam, "Have dominion OVER...all creation, the fishes of the sea..." and all of that. He said to Adam, "Now, I have given you, POTENTIALLY, powers for that, in your HUMAN CONSTRUCTION. And if you will abide in MY WILL, and live with Me in the will and purposes of God, THEY WILL FUNCTION. All out HERE. I don't have to come down with a supernatural thing ON you to do it. It's WITHIN. You keep that EXPOSED TO GOD, to ME, and I can cause these things to MOVE. NOT because there's something ADDED." Just fleeting now...here's one little catch: Dominion over the fishes of the sea. Did He ever? How many know when He manifested that? He HAD dominion over the fishes of the sea, didn't He? And He said, "You go down, and the fish will do thus and so." How come? Well, that's that marvelous expression of WHAT GOD WANTED THE FIRST ADAM TO DO!! And HE FAILED THROUGH SIN AND DISOBEDIENCE! But the RESTORED, the REAL Adam, moving in God, in HIS will, CAN DO! He can HAVE dominion! He says, "Fish...come!" Now, that isn't "just God." He's doing it through Spirit, of course. But He is a striking, wonderful, example. I'd like to go into that field with you; it's a little new to some, but you got to read the Bible as it IS! And FORGET alot of things. I've had to forget, in the years I've moved in the Spirit; I've had to FORGET just about HALF of what I had before I got in! Really, it's true. I've had to really FORGET just about HALF the trash taht had been told! Because MOST of it was NOT scriptural! It was TRADITIONAL AND SENTIMENTAL! Traditional and sentimental, but NOT the Truth. So every little while, I just have to FORGET something, to EMBRACE THE NEW. He can't give you BOTH.

5. So when he comes as this man, Adam was subjected, wasn't he? He was SUBJECTED TO TEMPTATION. Now, here's THIS "Adam." He's (Jesus) this Adam. HE will have to be subjected too! He will have to go through the whole thing. He'll HAVE to be SUBJECTED TO TEMPTATION! And so, it is GOD, the HOLY SPIRIT, who LEADS Him into it!! It wasn't that Devil that led Him in, and then tempted Him. IT WAS GOD WHO LEADS HIM BY THE SPIRIT! "THEN, after this,...THEN was He LED by THE SPIRIT into this tragic, strange, experience!" But what HAD happened? God the Father had spoken to Him and said, "Thou art My Beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased....take this testimony. Let it encourage Your heart. I want You to know that thus far, all is well. I've closed heaven. This is the first You've been able to hear Him speak. But Your're My Beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased. Don't forget that. Wrap it about You! Let it be Your safety place! Let it be to You ALL that You may need. FOR Son, if I dare to tell now, You're going to be subjected to one of the most devilish things out of hell! But don't be afraid. You wrap this concept of Truth all about You, and hide away in it. For it is the Word of God." THEN, after He had spoken this to Him, IMMEDIATELY...one of the other gospels say, "IMMEDIATELY..." not one, then, but IMMEDIATELY. IMMEDIATELY the battle is set!! What happened? The HOLY SPIRIT says, "Come." Come into what? "Come into this tragic experience of being tempted...tormented...put through." Well, why? All this of the HUMAN has to be TRIED OUT TO IT'S ENTH LAST DEGREE!! "And You are carrying it...and God wants this...this experience EXPOSED...that You may COME OUT OF IT AND THROUGH IT WITH QUITE A DIFFERENT SPIRIT." Remember these two little things; just happen to come to my mind, thank the Lord. About this SPIRIT. You know that AFTER His baptism, it says of Him, He went back to Nazareth, "FULL of the Holy Spirit," that is, "IN the FULNESS of the Spirit." But if you look carefully, AFTER He goes through this terrifying thing, it say, "He went back to Nazareth IN THE POWER of the Spirit!" Isn't THAT something? "Well, what's the DIFFERENCE?" My dear, all the difference in the world! MOVE in the FULNESS of the Spirit. But that doesn't mean YET, you have the POWER of the Spirit. No. You have the FULNESS of the Spirit. Jesus had the FULLNESS of the Spirit when He

came out of the water and went back to Nazareth, and it say, "He went in the FULLNESS of the Spirit; FULL of the Holy Ghost." Yeah. And what happens? He is subjected to the most SEVERE DISCIPLINE. "Full of the Holy Ghost," does not EXEMPT Him from an attack of the enemy! Does not EXEMPT Him from all the training that God has to give Him! NOW, after this, all...I call them...INNER CONVICTIONS...how can I say it? Oh, I wish I could talk. I wish I could say in flesh what I KNOW in Spirit! That's hard. I know in Spirit, and I can't say it. I call them these...INNER CONVICTIONS, the INNER TRUTH...the INNER TRUTH! The coming of FULLNESS of that which He received in the Temple as a lad. And He's been...those things have been working in His system. But you see, ALL THAT has to be TRIED under the powers of hell and death!!! HE CANNOT GO WITHOUT IT!! He cannot BLESS without it!! He cannot FEED without it!! All of those INNER things... have to be...I call it...just like it's TRIED IN A FIERY FURNACE!! Until those items... ..how can I say it...do you sense what I mean, please? That INNER thing that He's wrestled with, worked with, has to be...I call it...SOLIDIFIED!! It's CONFIRMED! The heat and torture of that thing brings a SOLIDIFICATION, a CONFIRMING, a CONFORMATION, a TIGHTNING of all those convictions...and if you know, He NEVER was bothered with it again! He never had to go thru any of THAT torture again! "He was tempted nigh," but through that episode, God SEALED in Him, these lights, these flashes, these INNER CONVICTIONS, this INNER REVELATION. Light concerning His IDENTITY. God SEALED it, thru the tortures of hell, brother!! THAT'S the way that went!! He was SUBJECTED TO IT! The Holy Spirit LED Him into it and EXPOSED Him! He HAD to! I'm SO GLAD He's been through, for we could NEVER go through. We can hardly go through the little, feeble, frame that we have. But He's gone FOR us. And He's now a HIGH PRIEST, Who has been touched with the feeling of our infirmities. Isn't it sweet? I think He's so beautiful, this morning...standing before the throne of God...interceding for US upon the authority of what He's WON for us...He has won that ETERNAL VICTORY for you and for me. And the BLOOD, as we say, on His hands that He holds before God; that's the speaking testimony. Those hand can't tell yet in FULLNESS...it's power, it's significance...it's FAR-REACHING...it's far-reaching.

6. So, He is SUBJECTED. And the enemy is WAITING. The enemy, if he could, would like to DEFEAT, destroy, kill ANYTHING that is of LIGHT and LIFE and TRUTH, or OF God. He is antagonistic. He doesn't want ANY of it! So, he comes OUT. Now, watch his tactics, watch his technique, his tactics. "And when He had fasted 40 days and 40 nights, He was afterward HUNGRY." Oh...now a want an hour. Why? Because most people RESTRICT that to the fact that He was hungry because He had fasted so long and He wanted something to eat. Now THAT is true, but that is purely SURFACE. That's purely surface. THIS hunger does not relate to a stomach wanting some food! Anybody would KNOW, that after 40 days and 40 nights you'd be hungry! Well, what's the use of putting that in there? When you would know it!? Why doesn't it say, "And He was hungry and He stood on both of His feet..."? Why insert a thing you ALREADY KNOW? How many KNOW you'd be hungry? Well, of course! Any goosy gander would know you'd be hungry! Well then, WHY does the Holy Spirit insert that? Because He is "playing the part" of the PERFECT, lovely HUMAN CREATURE, filled with the FULLNESS OF THE POWER OF GOD, able to DEMONSTRATE in ALL of those fields...those lovely, vast, fields...able to DEMONSTRATE and PUSH OUT into an EXPRESSION of WHAT LIFE REALLY MEANT. THAT'S the hunger dear! He had a RIGHT...He could say, "Oh, here is this vast, great universe. And here is the power of God My Father; He is well-pleased. Look at the fields! Look at the fields where I could move, and satisfy the URGE TO LIVE! To LIVE!" "Yes, precious Lord Jesus. I KNOW You are hungry. But there's only ONE path for You. It is NOT NOW time for You to exert that...that hunger satisfied in all reaches of a perfect...no, not NOW. You HAVE A PATH, and it's going to lead from HERE, over to THERE, to CALVARY. And You shall never satisfy the hungers, urges, and drives, which are LAWFUL, LEGITIMATE, and PROPER. For it is NOT NOW THE WILL OF GOD. The will of God, NOW, is that you SHOULD

BE HUNGRY. And He REMAINED hungry. If there's a HUNGER IN YOUR HEART AND LIFE TODAY, even along LEGITIMATE, right, PROPER, good places; if in your little design for living, it is NOT God's will to satisfy that hunger...GO HUNGRY...go hungry...go hungry. It won't last forever...go hungry.

7. Now, the enemy knows that too. So what will he do? He will hook right onto that opportunity. And his FIRST address to Him is, "IF thou be the Son of God..." What had happened? GOD HAD JUST SAID HE WAS! God had just said, "Thou art My Beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased," and THAT'S the thing that is AROUND HIM, and He's walking under the impact and power of that Word, that Truth! And the enemy knows that, so he comes and says, "IF you ARE, what you think, the Son of God, you have power! You're hungry! Hunger is a LEGITIMATE thing!..." This vast, lovely universe that needed direction, control...how His heart must have desired to MOVE! To move. But He says, "Not NOW...not NOW." "That hunger to become EXPRESSIVE, and LIVE and MOVE...not NOW. That hunger will have to BE CARRIED ALONG WITH YOU. I will SUSTAIN You, but You'll have to CARRY that hunger till sometime I will send the ministering Spirits." Now, I'm tempted to go up here to another place in the Spirit, which is so beautiful to me...oh...I wish I could say it....He's to have the fullness of His hunger satisfied. Every urge, desire, hunger, that was resting in that lovely, wonderful Christ will someday MOVE OUT TO IT'S FULLEST EXPRESSION. He was a human being on that aspect, and all those things which pertain to His human, which weren't satisfied, and left to Him as a hunger; He's GOING to have them brought into the Spirit and REALIZED IN SPIRIT! He really will! He will have...all of that has a counterpart in Spirit! And I KNOW it...it's up...I can't tell you, it's UP HERE! When I move in the Spirit, there are DIRECTIONS with me. That level up IN HERE, it pertains to the FULLNESS OF THE REDEMPTION. It pertains to the FULLNESS TO THE THOUGHT OF GOD. The FULLNESS OF THE PURPOSE OF GOD. That will MOVE there. But NOW, He says, "No. This hunger, because of your fasting, I'm not surprised that You're hungry."
8. So the enemy; his FIRST drive at Him is, "IF YOU BE..." Questioning the VERY THING that God said HE IS, questioning the thing that He's wrapped about Him, hammering against the tower in which He is hidden! He's hiding in the tower! What is it? "Thou are My Beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased!" THAT'S His hiding place. And the enemy comes banging and banging and banging at that!! "IF YOU ARE THAT, You have the power!!! Make these stones into bread, and SATISFY IT!!" "Oh," Jesus says to this enemy, "You don't know what ROLE I'm playing; WHO I AM. I'm playing the ROLE OF MAN. And MAN was NOT designed, in that fallen, dreadful place, not designed in that place, or even in it's PERFECTION, he was NOT DESIGNED TO LIVE UNDER THE IMPACT AND POWER OF THIS VISIBLE BREAD." No! He was to LIVE BY WHAT? THE WORD OF GOD--FIRST! He DIDN'T say he couldn't have bread, and shouldn't have bread! But He says, "MAN... and I'M THE MAN!!!" He didn't say, "I'm the Son of God and I have power and I rebuke you!!" He did NOT!! He STANDS SUBMISSIVE before him. There's where your bravery comes. The BRAVERY is so much more manifest when you dare to stand still and take it. He stood still and He said, "You don't know. I am MAN. I'm taking the ROLE OF MAN, and MAN WAS NOT DESIGNED THAT HIS LIFE SHOULD BE FILLED OUT IN IT'S PATTERN AND DESIGN BY BREAD ALONE WHICH PERTAINS TO THIS AGE, AND THIS TIME, AND THIS SENSE, AND THIS ORDER!!" Do you follow me? Maybe it's a little "heavy" for some, I don't know, but it's so good! I just swim in it! To me, it's such a lovely revelation of the Christ! Such a lovely revelation of this Jesus, Who we say, "I love you Jesus." Well, I say, "Do you KNOW Him?" "Yes! He SAVED me!" Well, remember. THE TREASURES ARE HIDDEN IN HIM. "IN WHOM are hidden the treasures."! The treasures of revelation, and light, and wisdom. That's all HIDDEN IN THIS CHRIST! I like to go in and bring some of it out. I love to because it EXALTS Him. He makes you love Him...don't you love Him better when you KNOW Him? Oh,...I'd think you'd react so that your whole life will want to flow to Him! Say, "Oh God, take me! Jesus take me! I just want to move to You! That's all. FORGET all this funny stuff. Oh...and you want to move back to God. That's one of the ways to get the baptism if you'd ever find it out. Start

flowing back into God. You'll come into something.

9. So He says, "MAN was not MADE to live on THAT level. THAT was not his life, but he was DESIGNED AND MADE of God to live--FIRST..." He says, "NOT live in that ALONE; it IS GOOD, but not ALONE!!!" How many can see that? The human expression of life IS GOOD where it belongs, on that level. He didn't CONDEMN IT! He said, "Man wasn't made merely to be a human being down here, tied up with all the phenamena of life! He was made to live...NOT BY THAT ALONE...that IS a part of our set-up, but FIRST, by every Word that proceedeth forth from the mouth of God." Now again comes that TRUTH, I call it SPIRITUAL ADJUSTMENT. "Seek ye FIRST, ADJUSTMENT IN GOD, and ALL of this shall take care of itself." But hardly ANYONE dares to believe that. But that's as TRUE as God in Heaven Just as true.

10. So the enemy is repulsed, you see. He says, "Well, Ive been able to tackle all the other people that I have known through the medium of their body; through a body approach." He says, "I've defeated all of these people so far, purely on the BODY level." And that's TRUE. An appeal to the body, with it's SENSE. So he says, "THIS man..." The Devil knows he's never dealt with a Spirit like that! "Why," he says, "He talks about something that 'is written,' and He's talking about God. I'll make my approach from THAT angle. I won't attack Him now, anymore in this 'body life,' because He has the VICTORY there. He has found an ADJUSTMENT IN GOD, and I can't do a thing with Him from THAT! Now, I'll take Him up into His SPIRITUAL level." Well, what is the Spiritual level? Well, that's the pinnacle, of the Temple, you see. That's THAT. "Then the Devil taketh Him up into the Holy City..." this is all the HIGHER LEVELS of your living. He can't get you DRUNK and all that; He can't do a thing with your body. That's so surrendered to the Lord, and you've got such victory, that he can't do a thing with THAT. But look out; you're MORE than a body! "Then the Devil taketh Him up into the Holy City, and set Him on the pinnacle of the Temple. And said unto Him, ..." You won't understand that either, until I help you with it. In that day,...oh my goodness, it's almost twelve o'clock! Pray hard that I can get all this that I want to say in 6 minutes! THAT would be a miracle! But you won't appreciate this idea of Him casting Himself till you know this. At the time when Jesus came, there was a common tradition that when the Messiah should come, He would do some strange, supernatural, wonderful thing, to arouse the attention of these Jews, and prove his identity as the Messiah. Now THAT was a common idea. That's what was eating in the heart of poor Mary at the very first miracle. Remember? She wanted Him to show forth who He was by a miracle, which would draw the whole thing into...and He says, "No. I CAN give you the miracle; I can give plenty of them, BUT I CAN'T GIVE YOU WHAT YOU WANT. My HOUR has NOT YET come. You want me to have an ABORTION here. You want a strange ABORTION. You want me to focus into this period of the miracle, my hour which is THERE, at Calvary. I can't make THAT hour of Calvary the hour of THIS miracle." And He couldn't! He says, "I can give you the MIRACLE; that's easy. But MY HOUR HAS NOT YET COME! I have that, but I can't give it to you!!" Because it's under the LAW. Of what? THAT WHICH IS BORN OF THE SPIRIT, MUST BE EXECUTED IN THE SPIRIT. Flesh CANNOT execute the Spiritual commands. And He says, "THIS is My path--CALVARY. And My hour will be THERE." Then just before He stands there at Calvary, He turns to them and says, "NOW hath My hour come." He did. Yes, He was making a faint reminder of ANOTHER time that someone wanted an hour. He says, "NOW hath my hour come. THIS is for what I was brought! THIS is mine! THIS is it! THIS is what I was made for! THIS is the hour! NOT the hour to make some miracles. I can give you miracles plenty! I can give you fish and bread and everything. But that's not the point!" So, He dissappointed her.

11. Now, THAT the enemy KNEW. He knew that if he could get Him to do some marvelous exploit, some demonstrative thing, THAT would arouse their attention,...why, He would vindicate His cause, and show that He was the Messiah, and come in on a SHORT-CUT!

How does He answer? Well, He answers it by what the BIBLE says. Well, how did the enemy WORD it? Well, the enemy...now the enemy...don't be scared...the enemy can QUOTE SCRIPTURE, and he can GIVE YOU PROMISES too! "The Devil?" Well sure!! Who do you THINK he is? The DEVIL goes into the WORD OF GOD and takes a promise right out of the Bible! Right out of the BIBLE!! A PROMISE! And OFFERS IT TO HIM. And he says, "It is written...You told me in the other temptation that 'it was written,' HERE'S something that's written! It is written in the scripture 'that He will give His angels CHARGE over You, so that You would not dash your foot against a stone,' and it's a PROMISE IN THE HOLY WORD!!! RIGHT HERE!!!" Here's the Holy Bible, with this beautiful promise right in it!! Now, "do you BELIEVE the promises of God?" "Yes...they're all true..." "Do you BELIEVE IN THE BIBLE!!!" "Uh...huh..." "HAVE you FAITH!!?" "Yes..." "WELL THEN BELIEVE THE WORD!!!" Well, I always say, "WHERE did you GET the Word?" "Well, IN THE BIBLE!" Well, the Devil got his promises too, right out of the Bible! Don't be scared. That's HARD teaching for Pentecostal people. Most of them have a technique of having a promise box, or the Bible, and when there's a need, running to it, grabbing a promise, and come out and try to stand on it! That's the most CRAZY thing you could possibly do!! Then you end in DEFEAT, and wonder what's the matter! Then somebody has to "cast the Devil out," and have an awful big time. Why did you do such a "funny" thing as that for, to begin with?! THE PROMISES ARE GIVEN TO US! WE don't FIND the promise and TAKE IT to God. Peter says the PROMISES ARE GIVEN TO US! Find the SOURCE! The SOURCE IS FROM GOD! "Well...isn't it in the Bible?" Yes. "Isn't that His Word?" Yes. But all the hundreds of promises in here...NO ONE has a right, of himself, to choose any of those promises and work with them. You'll end in DEFEAT! You've all tried it and ended that way; everyone of us. How many ever tried a promise and it didn't work? One? My dear Lord...Four? I want to say, are you all asleep, or petrified, or paralysed, I don't know which! Well of course! After you've tried that technique about 7,928 times, I would sit down and say, "Here Lord. What's the matter? I'm honest with You, and the Word is true. Now what's what?" He would TELL you. But He can't, because you're under a TRADITIONAL PATTERN. The promises are GIVEN TO US. We don't TAKE THEM TO HIM. When the emergency comes, and the need comes, God, knowing us and the WHOLE situation, WILL GIVE US THE WORD. Now, don't get it in the FIRST minute! He isn't like one of those "weegie board" things! People think the promise box and the Bible is kind of a "weegie board,"..."One, two, three, bumble-bee! I want a promise, all for me!..Glory to God!!" Then you get it, and it DOESN'T WORK! Then you don't LIKE it so you put it back in the box. So then, you fool around...you pull another one out, like this..."Praise God!! Oh, the Lord spoke it me!!!" Yeah, isn't it funny...oh dear...isn't it funny how the Lord "didn't know" what was in that box? Well, STOP SUCH FOOLISHNESS! I don't...I can't get along with people like that very well...I love them because they're God's children, but I think they're the most stupid things going! They're just...they're stupid! What's the use performing that way? GOD never told us to do THAT!!! TRADITION has told you, but GOD never told you. God HAS His Word. And He HAS A WORD FOR EVERY OCCASION. And if we will be HONEST with Him, whether we LIKE the Word He gives us or not; that's NOT the point! YOU got till you find the Word you LIKE, that you think will "bridge the chasm," and then it DOESN'T! He may give you a Word that you don't really relish very much. But when He gives it to you, just say, "Uhhh.I thank you Lord!" And TAKE it, you see. Just take it. But people won't do that. They want one that kind of gives them..."OOOH! I got the Wooooorrrrrrd! I got a promise!" Not long ago, I was reading with a friend a letter from, of all people, a good missionary alliance preacher who should have known better. I was just disappointed. And he wrote in the letter; she read the letter to me, and in it he said, "I'm in a terrific difficulty...such and such a condition. I suppose I'll have to go to the Word of God and find a promise to STAND ON." Can you imagine a minister doing such a silly thing as that? Going to the Word of God to find a promise "to stand on."? Well, how does HE know WHICH PROMISE WILL WORK!? No. Go to GOD and say, "Oh Father, what is YOUR THOUGHT about this situation? Now, Father. I could find alot of promises which I would like, but I don't know how to use them, because I

don't know which one fits THIS. Now, speak to my heart." Well, it'll take you awhile to get still because you're all full of promises. LAY THEM ALL DOWN. And let the LORD direct you and speak to you. And whatever Word He has, I don't care if it's the SIMPLEST thing, cherish that. CHERISH it! HOLD it! That's FRESH. Now that's a promise FRESH FROM HEAVEN, God spoken. "Well, does God speak through His Word?" Yes. Yes. But the WORD IN ITSELF IS A DEAD THING. And you go finding... ..they're ALL DEAD!! They have to be ENLIVENED by the Spirit of God! When God speaks a Word, it has TWO QUALITIES about it. The Word which GOD speaks into your heart has FAITH already with it, and it is CREATIVE. And as soon as that Word gets into your heart, it begins CREATING. Bringing LIFE. It has POWER. But a Word which YOU PICK...it is the Word of God!! Now, there's nobody quarreling about it!! But it has NO LIFE!! It has NO LIFE. Let HIM speak the Word, then you can go through hell with it! It may NOT be the Word YOU want. PAUL didn't get the Word he wanted. He prayed THREE times...did he have promises? Oh, I suppose he used every promise he ever heard of. And when God got at him He said, "Now listen Paul. All those promises that you're claiming, they're not going to work at all. Now, don't start claiming them. I have a promise FOR YOU, and this is the ONLY ONE which will work: My grace is sufficient for thee. Now you take that, Paul, and that one little promise from Me will carry you till the end of your days." And it DID. And ALL the other promises are GOOD, BUT THEY ARE FOR A DIFFERENT OCCASSION.

12. I suppose all could look back now and say, "My heavens! That's what was the matter with me! I suppose I went and got a promise that I thought was going to work, and it didn't work at all. And then I got defeated. Then my faith went out, and everybody thought I was backslidden, and then the preacher came and said, 'WHERE IS YOUR FAITH!!!!?' " And I say, "Oh, dear Lord...I don't know where mine is..." "WHERE is you faith, BROTHER!!!!" And SLAMS the head off ofyou, and you go home with a headache, and say, "Oh my dear Lord Jesus...where am I?" Well, He says, "You're just a little STUPID at present, but I can help you." Isn't that true? Yes, He does.
13. So now we're going...I want to talk just a minute more. I want just one more minute. He says, "Isn't it written that if You cast Yourself from this pinnacle, the angels would take care of you? Isn't it IN THE BIBLE?" Yes. "But what's the matter?" "Well, He CAN'T JUMP!" "He can't? Well He was walking around and everything!" "Yeah, but He can't jump!" "Well, why?" BECAUSE THE LORD HADN'T SAID "JUMP" TO HIM. If the Lord says, "jump," He CAN JUMP, and the thing will work. But if the Lord DOESN'T say "jump," ALL the promises in the Bible will NOT give Him permission to jump! So He has to stay now, in a DOUBLE THING. HE STAYS HUNGRY, AND NO POWER TO JUMP! Well, you got Him in a "bad" place now. That's the way people come, you see. They get that way. So He says, "I'm ABIDING IN THE WILL OF GOD. And IN the will of God, THERE'S NO 'JUMP!' That's a GOOD promise. It's out of My Father's word. That's right. That's TRUE. But THAT isn't any Word He's GIVING TO ME. The only thing I think He is saying to Me is, 'STAY PUT...HUNGRY.'" That's ALL He does. Wasn't it good that He did? So He STAYED PUT AND HUNGRY. In the last few years, we've had such a terrible, terrible reaction to alot of preaching that has been so dreadfully BAD!!! People going around with these "deliverances," and getting things "all stirred up," with "faith to faith and faith!" And they bring a poor subject out and they say, "THIS isn't of the LORD!! WHY do you CARRY it?!! Why all THIS!?! DO YOU BELIEVE IN GOD?!!!!!" "Yes...try to.. ..Jesus...help me..." "WELL!!! If you're HAVING FAITH, YOU'LL BELIEVE IN GOD!!!! THEN BELIEVE HIS WOOOOORD!!! AND STEP OUT ON IT!!!!" In other words, JUMP OFF THE TEMPLE, because it's the Word. And hundreds of them HAVE JUMPED! Do you know where I find them? I FIND THEM AT THE FOOT OF THE TEMPLE, ALL BROKEN TO PIECES. I really do. I have to go to the foot of the Temple many times to pick up the wreckage, the WRECKAGE, of an evangelism like THAT!! And there are poor, dear, Christians...defeated! Their FEET are broken; they can't walk in the Spirit. They're too LAME. Their ARMS are broken, and they can't serve God. And they're in pitiful condition, and they say, "Oh Brother Follette! Help me!! What's the matter!" "Well," I say, "listen dear. What did GOD say to you over that situation?" "Well...I don't know...the preacher

says the Bible is true and to take the promise and I took it and I just LAUGHED RIGHT OUT, and my heavens!!...I'm almost dead!" Well, I said, "You'll BE DEAD if you don't stop." Do you see what I mean? They have jumped off the pinnacle of the Temple WITHOUT ANY DIRECTION FROM GOD AT ALL. God wasn't in it AT ALL. Not at all. But there WERE the promises. And there WAS the thundering preacher, and "DO YOU BELIEVE?!!! OH BROTHER, WHERE IS YOUR FAITH?!!!" Then that scares the wits out of them. They kind of get "giggily." And I always want to say, "Well, mines' in GOD, please. Thank you."

14. Now, shall we take just one more minute? Well, really, this is my last message to you, and I just hate to lose you. You'd just as soon have this as the dining hall? I don't know what you're made of, beloved! But this is kind of good "eating" in here. So Jesus turns to him and says, "Thou shall NOT PROVOKE the Lord; tempt Him in the sense of PROVOKING Him." So, he didn't get Him to JUMP. He's STILL standing there--HUNGRY. But's He's IN THE WILL OF GOD. And you CAN BE in the WILL OF GOD--HUNGRY. Lot's of us are HUNGRY, but we're IN THE WILL OF GOD. And when you're IN THE WILL OF GOD--DENIED anything which is ALL RIGHT, don't you go and get a "little cracker" somewhere and kind of "nibble" on it to....NO. Don't DO that. Go hungry...go hungry. People do that. When a hunger is not perfectly satisfied, they get a little SUBSTITUTE. They say, "It's alright...aren't we MADE to eat? Isn't this a NATURAL thing?" Uh huh. STAY HUNGRY. "Well...it's just...this isn't really BAD! It's just a little CRACKER! You know...it has a little taste...a little flavor." STAY HUNGRY. Don't you SUBSTITUTE a thing. Stay hungry...stay hungry...stay hungry. Now, you won't STARVE TO DEATH. Oh, you think so. Because the "pangs" are so terrifying. No, you won't. You're going to LIVE.
15. Now just get this next one in a hurry, because this one COMES in a hurry. "Then said he unto Him...all these things..." Oh, now he's showing the things of the world. And exceedingly high mountain. Shows Him ALL THE KINGDOMS OF THE WORLD, and the glory of them. "And he saith unto Him, 'ALL THESE THINGS will I give Thee, IF Thou wilt fall down and WORSHIP ME.'" In all these temptations, THEY ARE ALL ALONG LEGITIMATE THINGS. They're NEVER along BAD THINGS. He's never tempted about a bad, vulgar thing. They ARE ALWAYS ALONG GOOD THINGS, and many of them, right, the THINGS GOD WANTS HIM TO HAVE! God is GOING to give Him the kingdoms of this world, and He will YET be KING OF KINGS and LORD OF LORDS, KING OF KINGS--EXALTED! That's TO BE! But He's not going to GET them along the METHOD that the ENEMY suggests. The enemy "fell," as we say; his "dethroning" came down through this desire to divert the WORSHIP which was going to God to HIMSELF. That's what caused the Devil to be what he IS. He sought the WORSHIP which belonged to God diverted to HIMSELF, and he FELL. He's cursed, and there was just a terrible catalysm, and he was THROWN from the heavens. Now, he's ALWAYS wanted THAT! He's ALWAYS WANTED IT. And so he says, "Here is this MAN. He's defeated me in these other two. I can't approach Him this way. The thing that I'm AFTER anyway is to GET THAT WORSHIP...that...that...THAT is what I'm AFTER! I've tried these two techniques, and that's my strategy, but it failed. I'll try Him with a quick assault!" "All these things will I give You..." Well, Jesus could have turned to him and said, "It's all MINE anyway, and I will YET possess it! But I shall HAVE TO POSSESS it in the METHOD WHICH GOD HAS GIVEN, through CALVARY, through it's DEATH, through all the PLAN which GOD has made, the kingdoms WILL COME! They will come AUTOMATICALLY! 'All these things shall be added unto You!' And I SHALL HAVE THEM!" So he says, "I shall give you..." Look how CLEVER the Lord is in His answer, because you see, the Devil didn't COMPLETE THE THOUGHT. Listen. WHEREVER YOU WORSHIP IS, THERE IS YOUR SERVICE! They are INSEPARABLE! Wherever your WORSHIP is, that's your SERVICE. And Jesus KNOWS that, so He just cleverly hands one to the Devil. I'm glad when He hands one out to him. I don't LIKE the Devil! "These things will I give You if You WORSHIP me!" Then said Jesus unto him, "Get thee hence, Satan! For it is written, 'Thou shalt WORSHIP the Lord Thy God, and HIM ONLY shalt thou SERVE!' You didn't TELL Me that there was SERVITUDE! You liar!" The Devil's a LIAR!! And he didn't tell Him THE WHOLE TRUTH! He said, "If you will fall down and WORSHIP me, all this will I give."

But Jesus says, "WORSHIP BELONGS TO GOD, and WITH the worship is a SERVATUDE! If I WORSHIP you, I am BOUND to you! I'm a SERVANT of you! I'm DEFEATED! The whole thing CRASHES!!" So He said, "YOU tell what you can GIVE? He said, "Get thee hence, Satan!"

16. Now here are three temptations. He has to BUILD up His STRENGTH from the first and the second, till He is strong enough to give a COMMAND. See. He doesn't command until He has gone through two terrifying things which will REACT IN HIM, and the third, He has the POWER and the GRACE, and the THOUGHT of God to say, "Get thee hence, Satan!" Satan GOES...and is DEFEATED! And I imagine that lovely Lord standing back there, I think He must have looked just DEPLETED...WORN...to fight the Devil like that! That takes...that takes...and as He stands there, ALONE, a LONE CONQUERER, He looks up to His Father. His Father says to a messenger, "Go down and feed Him. He's HUNGRY. You FEED HIM. I have an answer to His hunger. FEED HIM." And the angels came, and FED Him. And MINISTERED to Him. Any hungry heart in this room...STAY HUNGRY...IN THE WILL OF GOD, AND GOD WILL FEED YOU. God will feed you. The enemy will be BROKEN. His power will be TAKEN! Don't "nibble" on a little cracker. NO. "God, I'm HUNGRY." "I know it. STAY hungry, and I will feed you."

17. Our loving Lord, You are so wonderful...You are so wonderful. Oh, You're so wonderful! Lord, we love Thee. We thank Thee. We ask you Lord, as these people go back to their homes, you have been here every day to break bread to us. Grant that they shall take it in their little baskets home, and you will pick it up, dear Lord, and break it to them. Don't let them forget, but by the power of the Spirit, help them to remember; bring to their remembrance, oh God, the Truth that has been flowing over them and flowing over them and flowing over them. Let the Spirit bring it to their remembrance. And may they grow,...oh, may they grow. May they come into the fulness of the life that Thou hast prepared for all of Thy children. We will give Thee the praise and the glory, for Jesus' sake. Amen.