

# Milk & Honey

Vol. XXVI January, 2012 No. 1

*Spiritual Food and Encouragement for Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ*

## Not Out Of The World But Not Of The World

W. H. Griffith Thomas; Matthew Henry,  
William Kelly; August VanRyn; Harry Ironside

“I do not pray that :You should take them *out of the world*, but that You should keep them from the evil one. They are *not of the world*, just as I am not of the world.” (John 17:15,16)

It was the desire and prayer of the Lord Jesus that those who were His own should not be taken out of the world. He desired that they should be in the world but not of the world.

1. **Do Not Be Conformed To This World** (Romans 12:2). The spirit of this present age is absolute selfishness as contrasted with Divine love. Its object is the gratification of self rather than the doing of the will of God, and its authority springs from Satan because it has rejected the one true Ruler of the universe. The believer must therefore avoid taking his shape from the world around. Its life is so entirely different to that which comes from God that it is impossible for the true follower of Christ to be conformed to it. Unless we are particularly careful we shall find ourselves influenced by and fashioned like the world and given up to its spirit and life. (W. H. Griffith Thomas)

2. **The Wisdom Of This World Is Foolishness With God** (1 Cor. 3:19).

The thoughts of the wisest men in the world have a great mixture of vanity, of weakness and folly, in them; and before God their wisest and best thoughts are very vanity, compared with His thoughts of things. And should not all this teach us modesty, diffidence in ourselves, and a deference to the wisdom of God, make us thankful for His revelations, and willing to be taught of God, and not be led away by specious pretences to human wisdom and skill, from the simplicity of Christ, or a regard to his heavenly doctrine. He who would be wise indeed must learn of God, and not set his own wisdom up in competition with God's. (Matthew Henry)

3. **He Gave Himself... That He Might Deliver Us From This Present Evil Age** (Gal. 1:4). When God brings out His will...revealing Himself as the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has been given to die for our sins, there comes out a totally different state of things. We enter

into the relationship of conscious children with God our Father; and our business now is to honor Christ according to the position that He has taken at the right hand of God. People forget that Christ gave Himself for sins in order to deliver us from this present evil world. They sink down into the world, out of which redemption ought to have delivered them. (William Kelly)

4. **We Wrestle Against...The Rulers Of The Darkness Of This World** (Eph. 6:12). Satan seeks by all means within his power to assail and overthrow the truth of God. And the surest way of doing so is to keep God's people from enjoying it for themselves, for if we do not know it in our own souls' inner experience, we shall never be able to maintain it or minister it to others. The Devil is a wily foe. He does not usually fight openly, but leads men astray by his wiles, his tricks. He has succeeded well in keeping many of God's saints from knowing much of these deeper truths of the Christian faith. Many Christians do not even attempt to engage in this spiritual warfare, but are content to live on an earthly plane. Christianity, heavenly in its origin and destiny, and which should be heavenly in its character, has degenerated into Christendom with its worldliness and low spiritual tone. The moment a believer rises to claim his spiritual birthrights, Satan will bitterly oppose him. This therefore is the Christian's true battle in life. It is not to make this world a better place to live in, or to engage in social welfare, but to enjoy for himself the truth of God and to pass it on to others. (August VanRyn)

5. **The World Is Passing Away** (1 John 2:17). As Christians, ours are the only joys that last forever; ours are the things that will never pass away, and yet to think that we can be so foolish and invest so much in that which is simply fleeting and will leave us dissatisfied and unhappy at last. Have you made your choice, Christian? Have you turned from the world to Christ? There is many a one who has trusted Jesus as his Savior from judgment, who has never learned to know Him as the rejected One with whom he is called to walk in hallowed fellowship. No one can ever put this world beneath his feet until he has found a better world above. When your heart is taken up with that world (which is above), it is an easy thing to heed the exhortation, “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world” (1 John 2:15). (Harry Ironside) \*

# The Temptation Of Jesus

Alfred Edersheim

“Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil (Matt. 4:1).”

1. “And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread. But He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God (Matt. 4:2-4).”

He is weary with the contest, faint with hunger, alone in the wilderness. His voice falls on no sympathizing ear; no voice reaches Him but that of the Tempter. There is nothing bracing, strengthening in this featureless, barren stony wilderness—only the picture of desolation, hopelessness, despair. He must, He will absolutely submit to the will of God. **THE MORAL PURPOSE** - the grand moral purpose in all that was of God—was absolute submission to the will of God. His Spirit had driven Him into that wilderness. His circumstances were God-appointed; and where He so appoints them, He will support us in them. And Jesus absolutely submitted to that will of God by continuing in His present circumstances. To have set himself free from what they implied, would have been despair of God, and rebellion. He does more than not succumb; He conquers. He emerges on the other side triumphant, with this expression of His assured conviction of the sufficiency of God.

2. “Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, If you are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: He shall give His angels charge over you, and in their hands they shall bear you up., lest you dash your foot against a stone. Jesus said to him, It is written again, You shall not tempt the Lord your God (Matt. 4:5-7).” The Spirit of God had driven Jesus into the wilderness; the spirit of the Devil now carried Him to Jerusalem. Jesus stands on the lofty pinnacle of the Tower, or of the Temple-porch, presumably that on which everyday a Priest was stationed to watch, as the pale morning light passed over the hills of Judea. Jesus stands on the watch-post which the white-robed priest had just quit. The massive temple gates are slowly opening, and the blasts of the priests’ silver trumpets is summoning Israel to begin a new day by appearing before their Lord. Now then let Him descend, heaven borne, into the midst of priests and people. What shouts of acclamation would greet His appearance! What homage of worship would be His! The goal can at once be reached, and that at the head of believing Israel. The goal might indeed have been reached; but not the Divine goal, or in God’s way—and, as so often Scripture itself explained and guarded the Divine promise by a preceding Divine command.

And thus once more Jesus not only is not overcome, but He overcomes by absolute submission to the will of God.

3. “Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me. Then Jesus said to him, Away with you, Satan! For it is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve (Matt. 4:8-10).” Once more the scene changes. There they stand on the top of some very high mountain. It is in the full blaze of sunlight that He now gazes upon a wondrous scene. It is a world quite other than that which the retiring Son of the retired Nazareth-home had ever seen, could ever have imagined, that opens its enlarging wonders. In measure as our intellect was enlarged, our heart attuned to this world-melody, we would have gazed with bewitched wonderment on that sight, surrendered ourselves to the harmony of those sounds, and quenched the thirst of our soul with maddening draught. But passively sublime as it must have appeared to the Perfect Man, the God-Man, and to Him far more than to us from His infinitely deeper appreciation of, and wider sympathy with the good, the true, and the beautiful—He had already overcome. It was indeed, not worship, but homage which the Evil One claimed from Jesus. To destroy all this; to destroy the works of the Devil, to abolish his kingdom, to set man free from his dominion, was the very object of Christ’s mission. It is to become the Kingdom of God; and Christ’s consecration to it is to be the cornerstone of its new Temple. And so Satan’s greatest becomes to Christ his coarsest temptation, which He casts from Him.

“Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time (Luke 4:13).” They had been all overcome, these three temptations against submission to the will of God, present, personal, and specifically Messianic. The enemy “departed from Him”, yet only “for a season.” But this first contest and victory of Jesus decided all others to the last. And so also from first to last was this the victory: “Not My will, but Thine be done.” And over us is spread, as the sheltering folds of His mantle, this as the outcome of His royal contest and glorious victory, “For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever!” \*

## Milk & Honey Information

There is no charge for Milk & Honey. It, like all ministries of Spread The Word, is supported entirely by the freewill offerings of the Lord’s people. All gifts are tax deductible.

Publisher: **Spread The Word, Inc.**

2400 Admire Springs Dr.  
Dover, PA 17315

Editor: Stephen Hulshizer

Fax/Phone (717) 467-5729 phone/fax

Web site [www.STW1982.com](http://www.STW1982.com)

# The Victory Of Faith

James Denney

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. (2 Cor. 4:16-18)

The outward man covers the same area as “our body,” or “our mortal flesh.” It is human nature as it is constituted in this world - a weak, fragile, perishable thing. Paul could not mistake, and did not hide from himself, the effect which his apostolic work had upon him. He was old long before the time. He was a sorely broken man at an age when many are in the fullness of their strength. The earthen vessel was visibly crumbling. Still, that was not the whole of his experience. “The inward man is renewed day by day”. We can say of all people, bad as well as good, “The outward man is decaying.” But we cannot say of all, “The inward man is renewed day by day.” The decay of the outward man in the godless is a melancholy spectacle, for it is the decay of everything; in the Christian it does not touch that life which is hid with Christ in God, and which is in the soul itself a well of water springing up to life eternal.

Affliction is outweighed by glory, but the affliction in question is a light matter, the glory a great weight. The light affliction is but momentary. It ends with death at the latest, it may end in the coming of Jesus. The weight of glory is eternal; and as if this were not enough, the light affliction which is but for a moment works out for us the weight of glory which endures for ever.

The things seen are to all intents and purposes that tempest-tossed life of which Paul has been speaking, that daily dying, that pressure, perplexity, persecution, and downcasting, which are for the present his lot. To these he does not look; in comparison with that to which he does look, these are a light and momentary affliction which is not worth a thought. The stormy life, even when most is made of its storms, passes; but Christ’s glory can never pass. It is infinite, inconceivable, eternal. There is an inheritance in it for all who keep their eyes upon it, and, sustained by a hope so high, bear the daily death of a life like Paul’s as a light and momentary affliction.

Distrust of the supernatural, insistence on the present and the practical, and the pride of a self-styled common sense, have done much to rob modern Christianity of this vast ho-

rizon, to blind it to this heavenly vision. But wherever the life of Jesus is being manifested in mortal flesh; wherever in His service and for His sake men and women die daily, wearing out nature, but with spirit ceaselessly renewed; there the unseen becomes real again. Such people know that what they do is not for one dead, but for One who lives. They know that the daily inspiration they receive, the hopes, the deliverances, are wrought in them, not by themselves, but by One who has all power in heaven and on earth. The things that are unseen and eternal stand out as what they are in relation to lives like these; to other lives, they have no relation at all. A worldly and selfish career does not work out an exceeding and eternal weight of glory, and therefore to the worldly and selfish man, heaven is forever an impractical, incredible thing. But it not only comes out in its brightness, it comes out as a mighty inspiration and support, to everyone who bears about in his body the dying of Jesus; as he fastens his eye upon it, he takes heart anew, and in spite of daily dying “faints not.” \*

## Business Card Gospel Tracts

Spread The Word (STW) prints a variety of business card size Gospel tracts. These are easy to carry in your wallet or purse, and provide great opportunities to share the Gospel with others. The tracts are short and to the point and always encourage the reader to read the Bible to find the truth of salvation by faith alone in Jesus Christ.

The tracts have titles that are meant to get the reader’s attention. “The Chickens Did Not Know” and “Truth Seen Too Late” are good examples. “It Was Nice To Meet You” is great for those times when you must likely will never see the person again (airport, gas station, etc.). “Thank You” is great for leaving with your tip at the restaurant. See a list of the free tracts at [www.STW1982.com](http://www.STW1982.com) or write for some samples. \*

## 25th Anniversary Book

Articles from years 2005-2011

\$5.00 plus \$2.00 shipping.

## 10th, 20th, 25th Anniversary Books

Articles from years 1986-2011

All 3 books \$13.00US plus shipping

U.S.A. Shipping \$3.00

Canada Shipping \$5.00US

Shipping All Other \$10US

## Address Changed?

Please notify us of your address change. Thank you for your help. Write, fax, or phone with your new address.

# Milk & Honey

A non-profit ministry of  
Spread The Word, Inc., 2400 Admire Springs Dr.  
Dover, PA 17315

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 333  
York, PA

*I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world,  
but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are  
not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*

John 17:15-16

January, 2012

## I'm Going Fishing

W.J.P. Wolston

“Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, I am going fishing. They said him., We are going with you also. They went out and immediately got into the boat and that night they caught nothing.” (John 21:2,3)

Some of you will say, “It was very natural that they should go fishing.” Ah, things that you and I dropped in the first blush of affection for Christ, habits, ways, things we were full of, till Christ met us, are dangers we cannot afford to underestimate, and, unless we are watchful and careful, depend upon it the day will come when we shall find ourselves confronted by them once more, and they will carry us off.

The case before us is a striking illustration of this principle. “Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee.” Peter was the ringleader in this expedition, and all the rest follow. It will only take one willful saint to send a whole company wrong. Let one prominent person go astray, and all the rest will follow. Hence, in a certain sense, the influence we have on each other is a very serious thing. Most certainly it is a solemn thing if it be not right. I do not speak so much of our words as our ways. Because “actions speak louder than words,” and a man’s spirit is of far more importance than his communications. His general habits will impress others a great deal more than his words, because words are easily forgotten; but the general habit, the life of the person, is more far-reaching in its effect.

I say this because I feel the importance of it, and with a desire that our hearts might, by grace, be kept near the

Lord. The person that is going on with the Lord will affect others for good, and the man who is not walking with the Lord, but is walking afar off, will affect others prejudicially (detrimentally). The “I go a fishing” of Peter influenced the rest, who thought, if they did not say outright, “It will not be wrong for us if he goes.” The more important the person who takes the lead, the wider is the effect of his action. Peter had a remarkable place of prominence among the disciples, hence the weightier was the effect for good or for evil, of his lead, on those around him.

And now we read that, “They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.” It was history repeating itself over again. In the days spoken of in the fifth of Luke, when the Lord preached from Peter’s boat, He said: “Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all night, and have taken nothing.” (Luke 4:4,5) Here it is the same. They take nothing. And, beloved friends, if we are not near the Lord, nothing is really caught. If we get away from Him, if we get on our own line, the line that suits ourselves and our natural inclinations, there will be nothing that is really for the Lord. And then there is disappointment. \*

## York Bible Study Program

January 14	Spiritual Gifts (2) Worship/Service (2)	Mike Stoudt
February 11	Amos	Carl Knott
March 10	Divine Titles	Bruce Hulshizer
April 14	Elisha	Bob Spender
May 12	Living By Faith	Steve Hulshizer