

THE POWER OF SIN – Part 5

THE POWER OF “NO”

Luke 4:1-14 KJV And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, (2) Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered. (3) And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread. (4) And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. (5) And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. (6) And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. (7) If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. (8) And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. (9) And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: (10) For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: (11) And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. (12) And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. (13) And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season. (14) And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.

1 Corinthians 10:13 KJV There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

James 1:12-15 KJV Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. (13) Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: (14) But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. (15) Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Pythagoras - The oldest, shortest and most empowering words - 'yes' and 'no' - are those which require the most thought.

The words: **Yes** and **No**:

- ❖ Open doors or closes doors | Grants access or denies access | Expresses approval or disapproval | encourages relationships or discourage relationships

THE STRATEGIES SATAN USES TO INFLUENCE PEOPLE TO SAY **“YES”**:

- ❖ Pressure | Temptation | Deceit | Fear | Ignorance

WHAT “YES” TO SATAN MEANS:

- ❖ An invitation | Submission to his influence | Loss of freedom | Disobedience to Christ

Jim Rohn - 'No' puts distance between you and the wrong influence.

Doreen Virtue - Saying **No** gains you respect. When you say No, the other person may feel disappointed. But ultimately, they will respect you for taking good care of yourself. And most of all, you'll respect yourself because you are being true to yourself!

W. Clement Stone - Have the courage to say **no**. Have the courage to face the truth. Do the right thing because it is right. These are the magic keys to living your life with integrity.

“No”:

- A word of denial or refusal
- to refuse, decline, or disagree with a request
- ‡ “No” sets and protects boundaries
- ‡ “No” communicates a firm stand of resistance
- ‡ “No” is an attitude that refuses to surrender to pressure, seduction, suggestions and contrary arguments
- ‡ “No” is a fixed mind not to alter a decision

The Word “**NO**” used appropriately:

- ✚ Helps build inner strength
- ✚ Clarify focus
- ✚ Pursue goals and objectives despite opposition
- ✚ Establishes priorities
- ✚ Reveals integrity

“NO” BREAKS THE POWER OF SIN

1. FOR THE BELIEVER:

a. SIN MUST BE DENIED PERMISSION TO RULE IN YOUR LIFE

Romans 6:12-14 KJV Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. (13) Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. (14) For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

- Believers have the authority and power to say no to sin

- Believers decide to obey GOD
- Believers are empowered to win the battle with sin by the grace of GOD

b. SIN DEBT HAS BEEN SETTLED BY CHRIST JESUS

1 John 2:1-2 KJV My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: (2) And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

- Believers do not have to Sin
- Believers have an advocate, if they do sin
 - Advocate: intercessor, representative
- Believers sin debt has already been paid
 - Propitiation:
 - The act of appeasing wrath and conciliating the favor of an offended person
 - sacrifice offered to God to ease his wrath

c. SIN AS A LIFESTYLE IS IMPOSSIBLE WHERE THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST DWELLS

1 John 3:5-6 KJV And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. (6) Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.

1John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

- Believers know Christ came to deliver us from our sins
- Believers know that they do not participate in a lifestyle of sin because they abide in Christ
 - Abide in Christ: remain connected to Christ
- Believers know they are born again and have the power of GOD's Spirit dwelling in them