

# It Is Written

**Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"**  
**--Matthew 4:4**

How wonderful and reliable is the written Word of God! Here in this passage, even the *Author* of the Scriptures repeatedly turns to them in the midst of a war of words with Satan. And with those Scriptures, He utterly conquers the enemy.

Jesus IS God, so every word that came from Him was proceeding forth out of the mouth of God. Yet He did not rely only on His words and thoughts of the moment to combat the devil, but recalled the permanent, eternal words that He had inspired men to write down over the centuries.

How much more, then, should we as His people turn not to our own wits or our own words to combat the forces of evil, but turn to these precious words of life found in the Holy Scriptures. The tempter is powerless over the man who knows the Word and commits in his heart to obeying it.

No battle, not even a battle against Satan's temptations, is unwinnable if your chief weapon is the Sword of the Spirit. Satan can't win a debate against the words of God, because they aren't like words spoken by men. God's words are inhabited by His infinite power, so the devil fails to deceive those who know them.

If we're armed with the Bible, we learn to be victorious in the Christian life. His Spirit within us uses the Word to help us say "no" to the carnal things this world lives on, even though our flesh still craves them. As we walk with Him and grow in maturity of faith, day by day we see our spiritual hunger for the Word grow stronger than the desires of our flesh.

Is your main focus in life seeking to meet your physical desires and needs? If so, you are in danger, because the enemy stands ready to exploit every physical desire and every selfish impulse in ways that will defile and destroy you. However, if you hunger most greatly for the "bread" of God's Word, you will truly live the abundant life. "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

*Oh, Father, we plead with You: Increase our hunger for Your beautiful word, that we may feed on it and live.*