

lead when God is shut out. If I do not abide in the happy assurance of God's love and truth, His grace and faithfulness, I shall surrender myself to the government of some one, or it may be all, of the above principles; and this is only another name for the government of Satan. There is strictly speaking no such thing as free will. If man be self-governed, he is really governed by Satan; and if not, he is governed by God.

Now the three great agencies by which Satan works are, "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life." These were the things presented by Satan to the Lord Jesus in the temptation. He began by tempting the second man to take himself out of the position of absolute dependence on God and subjection to His will. But all in vain. "It is written," was the unvarying reply of the only dependent, self-empty, perfect man. Others might undertake to manage for themselves; none but God should manage for Him.

What an example to the faithful, under all their circumstances! Jesus kept close to the scriptures and thus conquered; without any other weapon, save the sword of the Spirit, He stood in the conflict and gained a glorious triumph. Blessed for ever be the God of all grace,