

In Hebrews 4:15 we read that Jesus Christ was 'in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin'. This is such a remarkable truth to me! The fact that Christ was tempted means that it was possible for him to sin. And yet we find that he was perfect, sinless! How could he have done it? Of course we know that in his divine nature was the power that defeated sin. Through this power He had the ability to totally concentrate on life. At every moment and in every situation He was mentally locked on to His purpose in life.

We as Christians are given the command in Matthew 5:48 to 'be perfect even as our Father in heaven is perfect'. We have such a hard time realizing that we have the potential to be much deeper spiritually than we are now. We get so discouraged because we cannot be a Moses or an Elijah, but God is only concerned with why we do not live up to being ourselves; up to the full potential of what we can be. We have to go to understand that Christ has the power to awaken the sleeping giant in the soul of every man.

One of the real reasons that we miss the mark is that we lack the power of concentration. How long does it take us when we are trying to study the Bible before a stray thought barges in? For most of us this could be measured in seconds. We find our mind drifting off, distracted by the least little things. We become sidetracked in life itself by questions, by pleasures, and by problems. Paul told the Ephesians in Ephesians 4:4 that they should be no more 'tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine', indicating to me that they were easily sidetracked and led astray. Of course, it is Satan who is doing everything that he can to promote that in us. Isn't it odd that we can find it so much easier to concentrate on the wrong things? It is usually because we are much more interested in them.

We have got to be able to keep our mind on the goal, because it is when we aren't hiking that we usually make mistakes. We must concentrate on living in Christ. How can we do that? Well, we must draw on the spiritual power that made Christ successful, and which can enable us to do all things through him. We must trust in him completely, and that means to throw every care on Him. And most of all, perhaps, we must love Him with all, not just part of our hearts. Then the power of God in our lives can give us strength to really concentrate on Him.