**Sunday, February 26, 2012**

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**Welcome** – Greg Snow

**Put on the Full Armor of God** – Psalm 20:1, 6, 7; Ephesians 6:10-18

***WORSHIP LEADER*** *O Church arise, and be strengthened by the Lord and by His vast strength.  
Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the tactics of the Devil.*

***WORSHIPERS*** *For our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens.*

***WORSHIP LEADER*** *This is why you must take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand.*

***WORSHIPERS****Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt around your waist, righteousness like armor on your chest, and your feet sandaled with readiness for the gospel of peace.*

***WORSHIP LEADER****In every situation take the shield of faith, and with it you will be able to extinguish the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is God’s word.**With every prayer and request, pray at all times in the Spirit, and stay alert in this, with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints.**May the LORD answer you in a day of trouble. He will answer him from His holy heaven with mighty victories from His right hand.*

***WORSHIPERS*** *Some take pride in a chariot, and others in horses, but we take pride in the name of the LORD our God.*

**Songs of Praise** – *O Church Arise/Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*

**This Wretched State of Sin & Temptation** –*John Newton*

*"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death!" Romans 7:24*

*Though we can fall of ourselves—we cannot rise without God's help! Indeed, every sin, in its own nature, has a tendency towards a final apostasy! By* ***our repeated slips and falls into sin****, we gain a more emphatic conviction of our own vileness and depravity; and we experimentally learn and feel our own weakness.*

*In His own time, Jesus returns to convince, humble, pardon, comfort and renew the soul. We begin at length to learn that we are nothing, have nothing, can do nothing—but sin! And thus we are gradually prepared to live more outside of ourselves—and to derive all our sufficiency of every kind from Jesus, the fountain of all grace. We learn to tread more warily; to trust less to our own strength; to have lower thoughts of ourselves, and higher thoughts of Jesus!*

**Songs of Worship** – *What a Friend We Have in Jesus/I Will Praise Him Still (with Psalm 71:19-24)*

**Offering**

**Comfort for the Tempted *– Charles H. Spurgeon (Preached on September 27, 1883)***

*The children of God are all subject to temptation; some of them are tempted more than others, but I am persuaded that there is not one, except those who are too young to be conscious of evil, who will enter heaven without having endured some temptation. If anyone could have escaped, surely it would have been “the firstborn among many brethren—Our Lord Jesus Christ;” but you will remember how he was led by the Holy Spirit, straight from the waters of his baptism, into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil; and the Apostle Paul informs us that Christ “who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin.”  Truly, the Lord Jesus might say to us who are his followers, “If I, your Master and Lord, have been tempted, you must not expect to escape temptation; for the disciple is not above his Master, nor the servant above his Lord.”*

*I know that I am speaking to many who have and are being tempted, and I repeat to them the words of my text, 1 Corinthians 10:13: “No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.” Remember, my dear tempted friend that you must not sit down in despair, and say, “I am greatly tempted now, and I am afraid that I will be tempted worse and worse, until my feet will slide, and I will fall and utterly perish.” Don’t say as David did when he had been hunted like an animal on the mountains, “One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul”; but believe that the Lord, who permits you to be tempted, will deliver you in his own perfect timing. Up with the banners, then! Forward, whatever obstructs the way! Let us sing:*

*When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,*

*Upward I look and see him there, who made an end of all my sin.*

*Because the sinless Savior died my sinful soul is counted free.*

*For God, the Just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me.*

**Song of Worship –** *Before the Throne of God Above*

**Seek Him as Your Savior *– Charles H. Spurgeon***

*I am so sorry, from the bottom of my soul, for you who do not know the Lord, for this comfort is not for you! Seek him, I pray you poor and needy sinners; seek him as your Savior. Look to him, and trust in him; and then all the blessings of the everlasting covenant will be yours, for the Father has given him to be a Leader and Commander to the people, and they that look to him, and follow him, will live forever and ever.*

**Song of Worship –** *Come, Ye Sinners*

**Message** – *“The Temptation of Jesus”*

*Scripture Reference: Matthew 4:1-11*

1. ***Tempt***
   * *To test or prove*
   * *It is a morally neutral word. When Satan tests it is a temptation to evil & sin. But when God tests it is “to prove the value or good quality of.”*
   * *Every test/trial can be a test to prove our faith & build our character or a temptation to sin. (James 1:2-4, 13, 14)*
2. ***Every great victory brings and follows temptation.*** *Let’s heed the warning of 1 Corinthians 10:12.*
3. ***Environment is NOT the true cause of spiritual & moral failure*** *but our nature & character is…let’s be wise!*
4. ***“The Analogy of Faith”***
   * *Let scripture interpret scripture.*

**Time of Prayer**