



### **DGM Message Summary: When Big Things Happen to Small People (4/12/15)**

**Message Summary:** In the message, Dr. Grier explains how to ward off attacks of the enemy and obey God's commands, even at your weakest moments, so your faith can be elevated to new heights. God wants to embrace you in the midst of your storm so he can fight all your battles, but you must fully submit to him so he can unleash his supernatural power in your life.

#### **Key Points:**

- Luke 4:1
  - Jesus has always been Jesus, but he wasn't changed until he had an encounter with the holy spirit
- Luke 3:21
  - God became man not to rub our faces in the dirt, but to fully identify with us and embrace us in our mess
  - When Jesus was baptized and prayed, the heavens opened
    - A dove came down and embraced the divine savior
  - God had no reservations about the son; officially released Jesus as his representative and voice
- Back to Luke 4:1
  - After 400 years of silence, God was authoritatively speaking through Jesus Christ
  - Jesus returned to the Jordan and was led to the wilderness by the spirit
    - We often expect the spirit to take us directly to a high place, but the way to the promised land is through the wilderness
    - We think the anointing of God shields us from trials and tribulations, but God didn't even change his pattern for Jesus (and Jesus had to go to the cross)!
    - The holy spirit comes in us not just to make it easy, but to get the job done
    - The wilderness is a dry, dangerous and lonely place, but it's only in the wilderness God teaches us not to take shortcuts (the throne comes after the cross)
  - PROCESS!
    - It's in the wilderness God breaks our self-sufficiency and we learn the art of depending on God

- While Jesus was there, he was tempted for 40 days by the devil (but we somehow believe we're exempt)
  - If we're not tested, we have no business being trusted
  - Submission doesn't kick in until you disagree
- Jesus had the right to eat; God didn't ask him to give up sin (just because you have a right to do it doesn't mean you should)
- We should make the choice to obey him in spite of (the "whatever it takes" attitude)
- Luke 4:13
  - The devil shows up the strongest in our greatest moments of weakness and vulnerability
    - Satan is the ultimate opportunist and has an insatiable appetite for our destruction
  - The Lord won't reward you for your rights, but your sacrifices
  - If we're faithful in the dry, lonely places, God can trust us with his power
- Don't be surprised if the devil shows up in your dry season; if you choose God, you will experience the same thing Jesus experiences
- Luke 4:16
  - For 30 years, he disciplines himself and serves in the body (at a church where he can speak better than the rabbi)
- Luke 4:17
  - He was handed the book of Isaiah, by the rabbi, to preach on
  - Jesus only operates in unity with the spirit of the living God
- Luke 4:18
  - Isaiah's prophecy:
    - To perform vengeance on God's enemy (the only one not yet fulfilled, but will be done when Jesus return)
    - 1. To deliver the poor
    - 2. To free us from the captivity of sin
    - 3. To open the eyes to our understanding
    - 4. To set at liberty those have been oppressed
    - 5. To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord (the Jewish jubilee when all past debts were cleared)
- The closest people in our lives can become our worst critics because they know our past too well
- Luke 4:24
  - If we're going to go anywhere in life, we have to learn to answer our critics
- Luke 4:28
  - The critics let their history with God get in the way of their future with God
  - When seasons change, you may see a different side of God
- Luke 4:29
  - Small minds do not expect big things, so stop fighting and let it be
  - Jesus was ousted out of the city and taken to a cliff; they planned to throw him down so they could stone him
- Luke 4:30
  - When we look at the text, there's no indication of a miracle

- The power of Jesus' fearless life was all over his face as they were trying to toss him off the cliff
  - When they saw that look, they backed off
- ***When people try to throw you off the cliff, handle yourself! Don't let small people bring you down to their level.***
- Kings don't swat their own flies.
- If you're always trying to "fix it", there's no room for God in the equation
- Scripture references: "Be still and know that I am God." and "Vengeance is mine," saith the Lord.
- In the midst of death, Jesus eventually went about his way
- God made the biggest enemy of the church the greatest friend of the church