



STAND
FIRM



“God exerted his mighty power in Christ when he raised **Christ** from the dead and **seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms**, far above all rulers and authorities.”

-Eph. 1:19

“it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.”

-Eph. 2: 6-7

“For our **struggle** is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the **spiritual forces of evil** in the **heavenly realms.**”

-Eph. 6:12

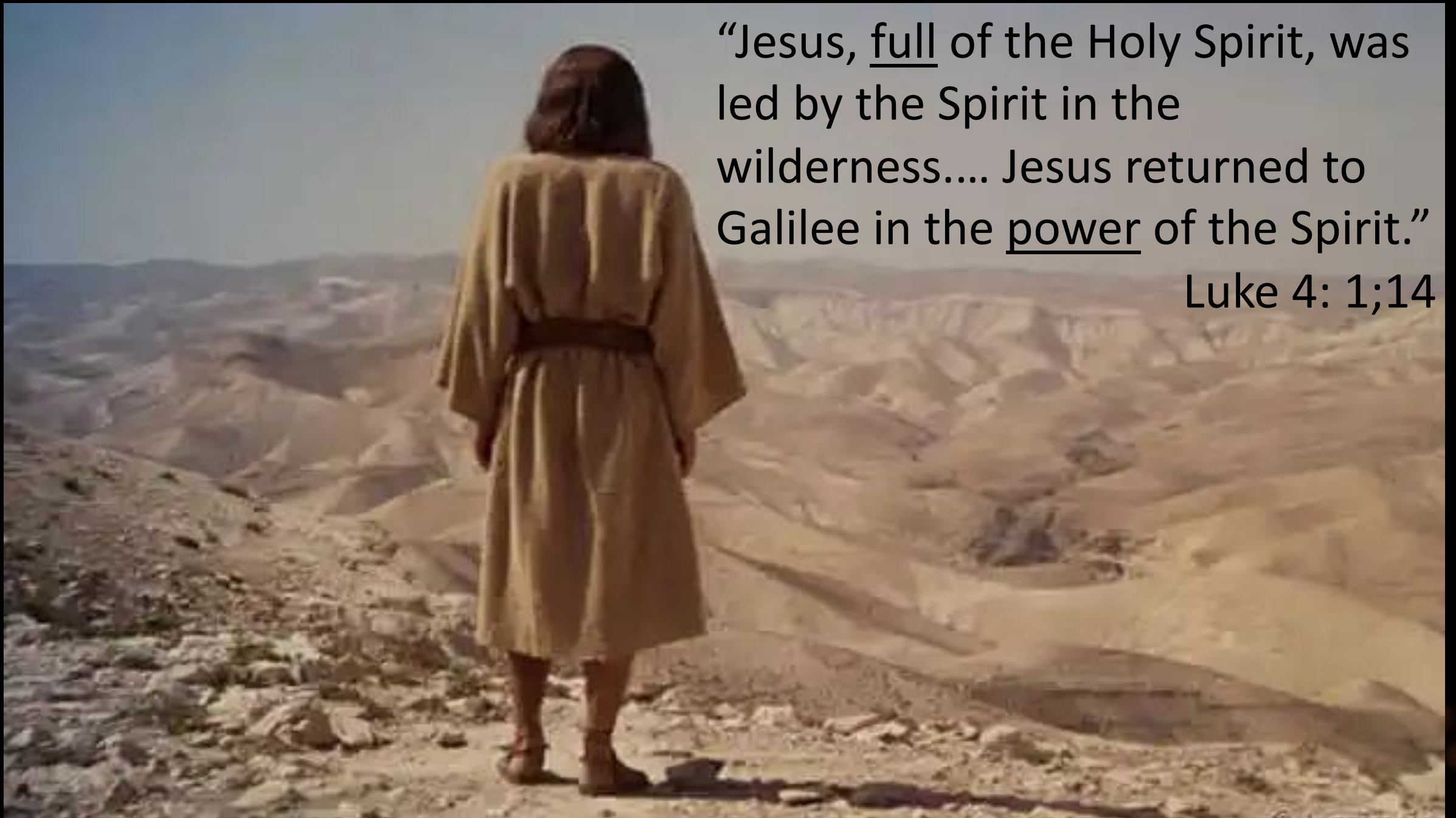
The Christian life is daily
defeating an already
defeated foe.

Intimacy with Christ is
experienced in the context
of struggle.

How we *stand firm* in our
Spiritual Battle

We are only as “strong in
the Lord” as we are
submitted to the Lord.





“Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, was led by the Spirit in the wilderness.... Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit.”

Luke 4: 1;14



...the full armor of God.

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Many good things are good things, but they're not armor.

This battle is personal

Struggle = Wrestle



Who is our enemy?

Satan and his demons


They are **created** fallen angelic beings.

What are his schemes?

Lies that get us to doubt God
and His goodness.





A woman with dark hair, wearing a tan, long-sleeved robe with a dark belt, stands with her back to the camera on a rocky, elevated desert ridge. She is looking out over a vast, arid landscape of rolling hills and valleys under a clear blue sky. The terrain is dry and rocky, with some sparse vegetation. The lighting suggests a bright, sunny day.

“When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.”

Luke 4: 1;13

What are his schemes?

Attacks come when we
are most vulnerable.

“Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.”

-Eph. 6:11

How do you put on something
non-material?



With our Mind, Heart and
Will we put on the Armor.

The armor is intended to be
very close to your personhood.

The belt of truth:

The belt of truth:

NO falsehood, duplicity or
image management.

A real you of weakness,
struggles and defeat, is better
than a fake you of projected
false strength.

The breastplate of righteousness:

The breastplate of righteousness:

“But now apart from the law the **righteousness** of God has been made known,... This **righteousness** is **given through faith** in Jesus Christ to all who **believe.**”

Romans 3: 21-22

The breastplate of righteousness:

“put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”

Ephesians 4:24

The breastplate of righteousness:

Consistent habitual sin creates a crack
in the breastplate,

The breastplate of righteousness:

Consistent habitual sin creates a crack in the breastplate; **confession covers it.**

Feet with the gospel of peace:

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“Therefore, since we have been **justified** through faith, **we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Romans 5: 1

Feet with the gospel of peace:

Experiencing the prosperity
of quiet and rest.

The shield of faith:



The shield of faith:

Actually trusting; putting your full weight on a promise.

The helmet of salvation:



The helmet of salvation:

Thoughts brought into
submission to the truth of
our salvation in Christ.

The helmet of salvation:

“For by **one sacrifice** he has **made perfect** forever those who are being **made holy.**”

Hebrews 10:14

These pieces of armor are Christ
himself being put on display
through you!

What's our part?

As we continue to submit to the Lordship of Christ, the Holy Spirit manifests the Armor of God in our lives.