TEMPTATION OF BELIEVERS
Outline by James Houston
In his abridged paraphrase, Sin and Temptation

I. The Nature of Temptation
   1. All believers face temptation
   2. In the general sense of temptation, God tests His people.
   3. In the specific sense, Satan tempts them to do evil.

II. Entering into Temptation
   1. When sin entangles us, we enter into temptation
   2. This occurs in the hour of temptation—when sin exerts special effort to entangle us

III. The Power of Temptation
   1. Even the strongest of saints faces temptation and sometimes commits sin
   2. Believers often use inadequate safeguards against the power of temptation
   3. We face this power of temptation both publicly and privately.

IV. The Dangers of Temptation
   1. Temptation operates subtly.
   2. We must maintain vigilance against it by recognizing the dangers of temptation against it by recognizing the dangers of temptation and by realizing our own inadequacy to preserve ourselves
   3. We must also abide in prayer if we do not wish to abide in temptation

V. Watching Against Temptation
   1. Temptation especially assaults us in times of prosperity, indifference, success, or self-confidence.
   2. We must fortify our heart against the approaches of temptation, especially during these more vulnerable times.

VI. Keeping Christ’s Word Against Temptation
   1. Christ’s patience cannot be separated from the gospel.
   2. We must know, value, and obey His word of patience, for then God keeps us in the hour of temptation