

4-23-23
UNDERSTANDING TEMPTATION

TEXT

Matthew 6:12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Matthew 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

I Corinthians 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

I Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God [is] faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear [it].

I Corinthians 10:14 Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.

Intro: Probably one of the greatest problems people face in their lives is temptations to do wrong, and temptations to do evil and sin. When we think of a person whose life is out of control we think of a person who is weak in the area of temptations. In the world that we live we are constantly being solicited to do wrong. In fact all the problems we face in this life are because of the failure of our original parents to conquer the temptation to sin in the garden of Eden. Because of this we are born sinners.

In this message we are going to thoroughly examine the subject of temptation and try to give Biblical principles on how to get victory over temptation.

I. FIRST WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND What is temptation?

The Greek Word is peirasmos, pi-ras-mos'; from 3985;

a putting to proof (by experiment [of good], experience [of evil], solicitation, discipline or provocation); by impl. adversity:-temptation, X try.

Dictionary Trace -----

3985 Peirazo, pi-rad'-zo; from 3984; (to test) (obj.), i.e. endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline:-assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt (-er), try.

English

**1 The act of tempting or the state of being tempted especially to evil:
ENTICEMENT**

2 something tempting : a cause or occasion of enticement

**3. Basically it is a solicitation to do evil..
An Enticement to do evil or sin..
A test, trial, examination .. in the case of Job..**

Entry Word: temptation

Text: Synonyms LURE 2, allurement, bait, come-on, decoy, enticement, inveiglement, seducement, snare, trap

Intro: A temptation is an allurement, enticement to do something..
It is usually a trap.. seducement...

The root word for temptation: is the Greek word "TO TEST..EXAMINE.."

Peirazo, pi-rad'-zo; from 3984; to test (obj.), i.e. endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline:-assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt (-er), try.

The root word for temptation has the idea to: Scrutinize.. has the idea of curiosity...
desire to examine..

Now think about what the devil did with Eve before he got her to eat of the fruit.. He got her curiosity up:

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

Genesis 3:2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

Genesis 3:3 But of the fruit of the tree which [is] in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

Genesis 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

Genesis 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Genesis 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree [was] good for food, and that it [was] pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make [one] wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

The devil got her curios about the forbidden fruit..
Every temptation starts with a curiosity about evil...

I wonder what it would be like..
I wonder what it would feel like..
I wonder

In other words... the devil put an itch in your soul to experience the evil he is trying to entice you to do.

This is why the Devil is called the Tempter....

What makes us so curious about evil?

The Bible says avoid youthful lusts.. Temptation and lust goes hand and hand.

II Timothy 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

The Word for Lusts is the Greek word epithumia.. Which means..

epithumia, ep-ee-thoo-mee'-ah; from 1937; a longing (espec. for what is forbidden):-concupiscence, desire, lust (after).

----- Dictionary Trace -----

epithumeo, ep-ee-thoo-meh'-o; from 1909 and 2372; to set the heart upon, i.e. long for (rightfully or otherwise):-covet, desire, would fain, lust (after).

A lust is a desire for that which is forbidden a inordinate desire..

Then there can be no temptation without a desire and a heart set on doing that which is wrong.

It is in the nature of young people to desire to do that which they are told they should not do or are forbidden to do.

FLEE YOUTHFUL LUSTS.. THEY ARE ALREADY CURIOUS ABOUT THESE THINGS.. SO THE BIBLE SAYS, FLEE THESE THINGS YOU ARE CURIOUS ABOUT THAT GOD TOLD YOU TO FLEE FROM!

Wonder... drink beer

Wonder.. Smoke a cigarette

Wonder... Get high

Wonder.. Commit fornication or adultery...

One of the ways to avoid temptation is to flee from it. Run away from it. The problem is that foolish young people run towards it!

This is why...

Ephesians 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove [them].

Ephesians 5:12 For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.

Ephesians 5:13 But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light.

Sex education in Public school backfires... because it creates a curiosity about things that are forbidden

So does all the drug education and any education about the forbidden!

In the millennial Kingdom, do away with the tempter and there will be a lot less sin..

The Bible says,

Ephesians 5:12 For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.

We should not even talk about certain sins, because it creates a curiosity about these and could lead the young and naive to be curious about these.

Now concerning temptation let us consider the following Biblical truths concerning being tempted.

Wouldn't it wonderful if you were immune to temptation!

If we examine why we are vulnerable to temptation, we could understand how to overcome temptation and be victorious,

II. WE SHOULD UNDERSTAND WHY ARE WE ABLE TO BE TEMPTED?

We can only be tempted if we desire to do what we are being tempted to do.

What is it that allows us to even be drawn to a temptation?

James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

James 1:14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

James 1:15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

James 1:16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

We can be tempted because in our flesh we can be drawn away in lusts...

Romans 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but [how] to perform that which is good I find not.

Look at the things that our flesh can be enticed into:

Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are [these]; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

Galatians 5:20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

Galatians 5:21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told [you] in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

CONSIDER THE LUSTS AND DESIRES OF THE FLESH: IN OUR FLESH WE ARE IN BONDAGE TO SIN...

Adultery

Fornication

Uncleanness

Lasciviousness

Idolatry

Lustful living

Worship other gods.. putting other things before God

Witchcraft pharmakeia, far-mak-i'-ah; from 5332; medication ("pharmacy"), i.e. (by extens.) magic (lit. or fig.): -sorcery, witchcraft.

pharmakeus, far-mak-yoos'; from pharmakon (a drug, i.e. spellgiving potion); a druggist ("pharmacist") or poisoner, i.e. (by extens.) a magician:-sorcerer.

Hatred

Variance

Emulations

Wrath

Strife

Seditions

Heresies

Envyings

Murders

A person with a contentious spirit

Envy and hatred.. for others who excel

Anger without just cause..

A person who likes to argue and divide

One who likes to set people against each other

A person who loves factions and fights

A person who hates to see others excel

One who would take another's life for benefit.. murder fellow robed neighbors and murdered them

Drunkenness

Revelings

One who likes to carouse.. and party...

All these sins are lodged in our corrupt.. flesh nature.. human sin Adamic nature..

Romans 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but [how] to perform that which is good I find not.

Romans 7:19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

Romans 7:20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

Romans 7:21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

Romans 7:22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

Romans 7:23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

Romans 7:24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

Romans 7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Romans 8:1 [There is] therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Romans 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Every unsaved person has no choice.. he is in bondage to sin. Since he does not have the Spirit of Christ he is a prisoner to the desires and lusts of his flesh.

Every saved person carries with him ... the old sin nature and the new nature.. The desires of the flesh and the desires of the Spirit.

We who have the Spirit should be wise to the devices.. of Satan

Romans 8:1 [There is] therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Romans 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

Romans 8:4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Being delivered from temptation is determined by what shoes you put on in the morning.

If you decided to walk in the flesh then you will sin.

If you decide to walk in the spirit you will be delivered from temptation.

What is a temptation.. greed, lust.. and curiosity that is motivated by our inner lusts..

Story goes along with this.. the eagle story..

Sin is like the law of gravity. In the flesh we are drawn down to the ground.

As long as you live in the flesh you cannot overcome temptation.
You will be dragged down..
You will fall..

You do not get the victory of over sin by following the law of gravity.
You cannot overcome temptation in the flesh..

The Law.. The command not to .. thou shalt nots and Thou Shalts.. will never give you victory over the temptation to sin.

You can only over come the law of gravity with a greater law.

A great example of this is found in the eagle story.

An eagle laid some eggs in a high mountain cliff. She hatched some eaglets.

The eaglet is not free from the nest until it learns to spread its wings and learn how to soar and defy the law of gravity with the greater law and principles of aerodynamics can overcome the law of gravity.

III. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES THAT WILL HELP OVERCOME TEMPTATION

This point is a message unto itself..

HOW TO BE DELIVERED FROM EVIL AND TEMPTATIONS

- 1. THE BEST WAY TO BE DELIVERED IS TO PRAY TO BE DELIVERED**
- 2. THE NEXT BEST WAY IS TO LEARN FROM THE EXAMPLE OF OTHERS..**
- 3. THE NEXT WAY TO BE DELIVERED TO UNDERSTAND YOUR WEAKNESSES**
- 4. THE NEXT WAY TO BE DELIVERED IS TO ASK GOD TO HELP YOU BY SHOWING YOU THE WAY TO AVOID AND ESCAPE TEMPTATION**
- 5. THE BEST WAY TO BE DELIVERED IS TO FLEE TEMPTATION**

When we talk about the law of aerodynamics overcoming the law of gravity.. This law is not as simple as it may sound, other wise anyone could fly. The law of aerodynamics involves the laws of lift, weight, thrust and drag. So to over come lust and temptation we as Christians need to learn to fly above these temptations that drag us down.

1. TO BE DELIVERED FROM TEMPTATION WE MUST LEARN TO PRAY TO BE DELIVERED

God is the best one to deliver us from temptation!

Matthew 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

The biggest problem we have in this life is our prayer-less state..

WE JUST DO NOT PRAY ENOUGH..

There are some things that are only accomplished through prayer..

I am amazed at how many people do not pray .. together..
We have husbands and wives who never pray together..

We have parents who never pray with their children..
We have churches who have abandoned prayer meetings..
We have a nation that has abandoned prayer
America will not be saved by elections... America can only be saved through prayer!

In 1952 President Truman established one day a year as a "National Day of Prayer."

In 1988 President Reagan designated the First Thursday in May of each year as the National Day of Prayer.

In June 2007 (then) Presidential Candidate Barack Obama declared that the USA "Was no longer a Christian nation."

President Obama canceled the 21st annual National Day of Prayer ceremony at the White House under the ruse of "not wanting to offend anyone"

BUT... on September 25, 2009 from 4 AM until 7 PM, a National Day of Prayer FOR THE MUSLIM RELIGION was Held on Capitol Hill beside the White House. There were over 50,000 Muslims in D.C. that day.

HE PRAYED ALL DAY WITH THE MUSLIMS

It Didn't matter if "we Christians" were offended by this event - He really do not hold us as a nation of Christians!

It is only God who knows the evil that lies before us, and if we do not pray we will not be delivered from evil.

Only the Lord can deliver us from temptations that he knows we cannot handle..
So we need to pray LORD DELIVER US FROM EVIL AND TEMPTATIONS..

There are two aspects of deliverance when it comes to our prayer life..

A. OUR PRAYERS CAN DELIVER US FROM EVIL..

King David always enquired of the Lord before he went into battle.. and many times God showed him how to be victorious..

David had a rebellion on his hands at Ziklag.. his men were so mad they were talking about stoning him to death.. but after he prayed to the Lord.. the Lord turned the tragedy into victory..

I Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing.

When David was tempted by Bathsheba to sin, notice he did not pray about it. Isn't it amazing that when we are tempted to sin we do not want to pray! That is the last thing on our minds.

We need to always be in communication with God.. and in turn God can deliver from evil. I will guarantee you when you are tempted to sin you have no desire to pray!

I can't even begin to tell you how many times I could sense that God was protecting me or my family from evil because of prayer..

One time our van broke down on the way to Philadelphia. We were on the turnpike and there was an rise in highway violence and thefts.. Just as we pulled over and were waiting for help.. a man pulled off the road and asked me to help him find his hub cap that flew off his car.. I could sense there was something wrong with the man.. but didn't want any problems with the family and kids .. so I pretended like I was going to go with him.. but I prayed and asked the Lord to do something to get the man away from my family..

Just then a police car pulled up in back of our van.. and I turned around to go talk to the cop.. and the man ran off.. I knew there was evil.. and God delivered us from it..

Many, many other times in my life this happened..

B. Our prayers can deliver us from temptation .. and sin..

God knows what you can handle.. and what you can't .. sometimes.. the things God intervenes.. but these interventions can in fact be deliverance in disguise..

God brought me to a country church.. which was best place to raise a family and to be delivered from temptations. In a city ministry there are many temptations..

Job with company.. talking about training.. going clubbing..
Few months latter company closed.. and latter went out of business

A job not gotten could actually be a deliverance from temptation..
A vacation not taken.. could be a blessing in disguise..
Sometimes.. money gotten could be a temptation..

It is God and God alone that in many instances delivers us from temptation. We cannot control all the circumstances of life. God can..

We may think being able to give our teens a car is a blessing.. It might be lack of finances to give them their own car is the real blessing!

Carlton Lewis told a story how one time.. a group from his school came to his house and wanted him to go to a school social with them.. He asked his Dad.. and his dad said.. not to go because they had lots of chores to do on the farm.. Carlton .. obeyed his dad.. and that group of teens got in a car accident.. and the person who was sitting in the back where Carlton Lewis would have been sitting was killed!! DELIVER US FROM EVIL AND TEMPTATIONS..

C. Our Prayers Can Change Our Hearts And The Hearts Of Others...

What puts something in our hearts to do or not to do?

Psalms 37:3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; [so] shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Psalms 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Peter Told Ananias that Satan Filled his heart to sin..

Acts 5:3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back [part] of the price of the land?

If Satan can fill our hearts why couldn't the Lord fill our hearts to do good..

Reason people do what they do is because they desire to do so..

Do you have a bad habit? Smoking Drinking.. or whatever.. what you do you do because you desire to do it.

Prayer can change our desires..

When you get close to God.. you become like God..

The New Testament promise is that God will place his law in our hearts..
When the Holy Spirit comes into our hearts.. we should want to please God..

Almost everyone in this room .. has something that they have a distaste for..

For me it is Peanut Butter..

For my wife it is Fish..

This happened to me with cigarettes.. in high School.. I lost my desire..

People don't come to church because you don't want to come..
no desire for the Word of God.. no taste for it..

People drink because they desire to drink..

People do drugs because they desire to do so..

What is it that you are tempted by what is your weakness to sin?

It is only a weakness because you have a lust problem.

OUR PRAYER SHOULD BE .. DELIVER ME FROM EVIL AND TEMPTATION..

Just think if God removed the desire for those things that are destroying you.. and gave you a desire for things that were good and healthy for you..

YOUR PROBLEM IS THAT YOU ARE NOT PRAYING ENOUGH FOR GOD TO REMOVE FROM YOUR HEART THE DESIRE TO DO THOSE THINGS THAT ARE SIN..

The Bible says this about Jesus:

Hebrews 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as [we are, yet] without sin.

Jesus had nothing in him that gave him a desire to sin. A temptation can only be a temptation if there is something in you that would desire that sin, or be allured buy it..

My wife tells the story about a friend of hers who wanted to give her her pretzels at lunch. My wife said to her friend.. why don't you want your pretzels. She said, I gave them up for lent. She said what is lent. She said, that is when you give up something for God. My wife asked, why did you give up pretzels. She said, because I don't like pretzels.. Since I don't like them I can't be tempted to eat them during lent.

You cannot be tempted to do something that you down deep have no desire to do anyway!

2. THE NEXT BEST WAY TO TO LEARN TO BE DELIVERED FROM EVIL AND TEMPTATIONS IS TO LEARN FROM THE EXAMPLE OF OTHERS WHO HAVE FALLEN AND WERE VICTORIOUS

Look at those who have fallen and learn! Why is it that we think we can do what others have done and get different results?

THE BIBLE IS FILLED WITH EXAMPLES AND LESSONS WE CAN LEARN FROM GOOD AND BAD:

I Corinthians 10:11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

Have any people ever been blessed and prospered who rejected God and His Word?

Can we follow the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah and expect God will not judge us?!

We can look at king after king who went the way of the world and the heathen and see the end results..

We can look at Israel in the wilderness and see how they rejected the Lord.. and worshipped the heathen gods.. and we can see the end results!!!

We can see how God chastened and dispersed the nation of Israel because of their sinful ways.. and rejection of His word..

Do we think it will go any better for us? The Bible accounts are given for our learning.

Look at those who have been blessed in the Bible.. and do as they did.. and you will be blessed..

Look at those who have been cursed.. and If we do as they did do we think things will go any better for us?

From..

ADAM

CAIN

WE CAN LEARN FROM ABRAHAM..

WE CAN LEARN FROM THE OTHER PATRIARCHS

What can we learn from Achan about Covetousness?

What can we learn from the Judges.. and Samson?

What can we we learn from the Kings?

What can be learn from their lives?

What Can we learn from SAUL.. HIS REBELLION

What Can we learn from DAVID.. A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART...

ALL THESE THINGS HAPPENED FOR EXAMPLES

Be careful you don't misinterpret present life examples in this life we do not see the full story. This is why we are given the the divine perspective of history from the Bible's viewpoint. In the middle of Job's trials it could appear that it does not pay to serve God!

The story is not over till the books are closed..

One of the problems we face in this life.. is that often is may appear that the wicked prosper and are happy! But the story is not over till it is over..

We only have one life and when that life is over and then a person's full life can be observed, than it can be determined whether or not the path they chose was indeed worth it. Don't let your present experience in life dictate your outlook and doctrine of living.

Someone says.. well I try to do right and everything seems to be going wrong but I know so and so .. they don't go to church they don't serve God and they don't seem to have some of the problems that I have been having.

Or maybe you know people who have claimed to be Christians but their lives are a wreck and you wonder is it really worth it.

Now the problem we face in this life is that the only one that sees clearly is the Lord.. People can cover up a lot of things and make a show there is only one who really knows all that is going on and that is God!

3. THE NEXT WAY TO BE DELIVERED TO UNDERSAND YOUR OWN WEAKNESSES

I Corinthians 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

I Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God [is] faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear [it].

Those who think they are strong are in line for a fall..

II Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

II Corinthians 12:10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

Why is it that we think we can do what others have done and failed.. and we think it will be different for us?

There is not one person's that given the wrong situation or circumstance that would not fall into temptation. We need not pray for strength to face temptation, we need to pray to be delivered from temptation, and we need to look at the best way to escape temptations. Deliver us from temptation, and look for a way to escape temptation.

A person who has a problem with drinking is a fool to think they can be around people that drink and not fall..

A person that has a problem with immorality is a fool to think they can work certain places and be with certain people and not fall..

In the area of lust.. it is our eyes that get us into trouble... first a person looks and then if they can, they will take...

ARE YOU ANY STRONGER THAN KING DAVID.. WHO SAW BATHSHEBA .. AND THEN TOOK HER TO HIMSELF!

4. THE NEXT WAY TO BE DELIVERED IS TO ASK GOD TO HELP YOU BY SHOWING YOU THE WAY TO AVOID AND ESCAPE TEMPTATION

I Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God [is] faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear [it].

There is a way that God will make for us to escape temptation..

It is up to you to take that door of escape...

A. WHEN WE SEE THE ESCAPE DOOR WE SHOULD TAKE IT IMMEDIATELY

Some decisions you make will steer your life for years in the future..

In the area of temptation remember your life is like a truck without strong brakes.. avoid the hill that will take you down the road of destruction ..

Once you decide to go down that road you are headed for destruction..

Choose who you marry carefully.. it is better not to marry than to find your life spiritually shipwrecked... Your life is like a truck without brakes.. and when you choose to go down some steep hills you cannot avoid a wreck!

The very worse thing you can do is marry someone who does not love the Lord!

Therefore take the way of escape right away!

DO YOU THINK YOU ARE BETTER THAN SOLOMON? Who married wrong women..
DO YOU THINK YOU ARE STRONGER THAN SAMSON?

5. Sometimes the best way to overcome temptation is to flee temptations

Joseph was a great example of this:

This is often the best way of escape.. just run from those things that would destroy you!

Joseph in the Bible fled from Potiphar's wife is a perfect example of fleeing temptation..

Genesis 39:2 And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.

Genesis 39:3 And his master saw that the LORD [was] with him, and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand.

Genesis 39:4 And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all [that] he had he put into his hand.

Genesis 39:5 And it came to pass from the time [that] he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.

Genesis 39:6 And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not ought he had, save the bread which he did eat. And Joseph was [a] goodly [person], and well favoured.

Genesis 39:7 And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me.

Genesis 39:8 But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what [is] with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand;

Genesis 39:9 [There is] none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou [art] his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

Genesis 39:10 And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, [or] to be with her.

Genesis 39:11 And it came to pass about this time, that [Joseph] went into the house to do his business; and [there was] none of the men of the house there within.

Genesis 39:12 And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out.

Genesis 39:13 And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth,

Genesis 39:14 That she called unto the men of her house, and spake unto them, saying, See, he hath brought in an Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice:

Genesis 39:15 And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out.

Genesis 39:16 And she laid up his garment by her, until his lord came home.

Genesis 39:17 And she spake unto him according to these words, saying, The Hebrew servant, which thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me:

Genesis 39:18 And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled out.

Genesis 39:19 And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, After this manner did thy servant to me; that his wrath was kindled.

Genesis 39:20 And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners [were] bound: and he was there in the prison.

Note some lessons about temptation..

PART TWO UNDERSTANDING TEMPTATIONS LESSONS ON OVERCOMING TEMPTATION

Continuation of Joseph's great example of victory over temptation

I. VICTORY OR DEFEAT STARTS WITH THE WAY WE THINK...

1. CONSIDER PROPER THINKING.. IS BIBLICAL THINKING

A person yields to temptation when they are not thinking properly..

Proper thinking.. Joseph said,

How could I do such a evil against my master..
How could I do such evil against God..

This is the first step to victory over temptation..
WE NEED THINK BIBLICAL THOUGHTS!

2. CONSIDER IMPORPER THINKING ..

Well I work hard and deserve to do this thing..
No one will know..

I am not really hurting anybody... as long as she wants it..

3. A great part of succumbing to temptation lies in our thinking.. So as soon as we let our minds go down the wrong path we become like a vehicle that cannot be stopped the desire becomes greater and greater and we cannot control ourselves..

It is best not to even go down the road of temptation..
So a person who has a drinking problem .. thinks thoughts like...
I worked hard I deserve a drink... only one..

A person who is trying to quit smoking..
We'll I know I should quit but I will do it latter.. right now I just
need to smoke to calm my nerves..

II. WE CANNOT BE TEMPTED TO DO EVIL UNLESS THERE IS EVIL IN US..

James 1:12 Blessed [is] the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

James 1:14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

James 1:15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

James 1:16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Here is an interesting statement..

... God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

It is our own sinful bent.. that allows us to be enticed to sin..

God cannot be enticed to sin.. and he does not entice any man to sin...

Herein is what I have heard many people say.. God made me this way..

God made no man to do evil nor does he entice men to do evil..

Ecclesiastes 7:27 Behold, this have I found, saith the preacher, [counting] one by one, to find out the account:

Ecclesiastes 7:28 Which yet my soul seeketh, but I find not: one man among a thousand have I found; but a woman among all those have I not found.

Ecclesiastes 7:29 Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.

Ecclesiastes 8:1 Who [is] as the wise [man]? and who knoweth the interpretation of a thing? a man's wisdom maketh his face to shine, and the boldness of his face shall be changed.

Sinful men seek out many inventions.. devices.. wickedness..

Drugs.. are sinful men's invention..

Evil sin.. so many things that men seek after are but their inventions..

Why do men desire certain things that are evil and wicked?

Why is one man enticed to do something that to another it's like water off of a duck's back?

III. EVEN WITH PROPER THINKING SOMETIMES MORE DRASTIC MEASURES MUST BE TAKEN JOSPEH KNEW ENOUGH TO FLEA TEMPTATION...

Genesis 39:10 And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, [or] to be with her.

Genesis 39:11 And it came to pass about this time, that [Joseph] went into the house to do his business; and [there was] none of the men of the house there within.

Genesis 39:12 And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out.

Joseph fled from temptation....

Sometimes we have to take drastic measures to avoid disaster..

Sometimes you see these things off the side of the road.. emergency Runaway Truck Ramps ... the idea is if things get out of control.. take that escape ramp.... This is a drastic measure.. but is better than the alternative..

FOR JOSEPH FLEEING WAS THE WAY OF ESCAPE..

Want to quit smoking.. Stop buying cigarettes..

Want to quit drinking.. Get rid of all the liquor in your house..
Stop being with others who drink..

Want to clean up your thought life.. Stop reading smut and watching smut..

God will provide a RUNAWAY RAMP... to avoid disaster..

VI. ONE OF THE HARDEST THINGS ABOUT DOING WHAT IS RIGHT IS THAT THE REWARD IS NOT OFTEN EXPERIENCED RIGHT AWAY..

Genesis 39:14 That she called unto the men of her house, and spake unto them, saying, See, he hath brought in an Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice:

Genesis 39:15 And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out.

Genesis 39:16 And she laid up his garment by her, until his lord came home.

Genesis 39:17 And she spake unto him according to these words, saying, The Hebrew servant, which thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me:

Genesis 39:18 And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled out.

Genesis 39:19 And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, After this manner did thy servant to me; that his wrath was kindled.

Genesis 39:20 And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners [were] bound: and he was there in the prison.

The devil will get you to think that it is not worth trying to do right..

Some people look for immediate results..

Again.. proper thinking.. will overcome this..

Sometimes the blessing of doing right is not experienced for many years in the future..

The cursing for doing wrong also may not be experienced for many years down the road..

I knew a lady that thought she was able to function better when she was drinking.. This same lady is probably dead today..

V. TEMPTATIONS THAT WE SURCOME TO BECOME PATTERNS AND THEN HABBITS SOON WE FIND OURSELVES IN BONDAGE TO SIN

How do we get addicted to cigarettes or liquor or drugs?

Just like we develop a distaste for something that we had a bad experience with, so we can develop an inordinate pleasure from things that make us feel good for a short time. THIS IS THE PLEASURES OF SIN FOR A SEASON..

My wife.. with fish..
Me with Peanut butter..

Opposite can happen with a drug.. or drinking.. or other ...

A memory of a pleasurable experience.. will haunt us.. until the sinful pleasure becomes a habit and then an addiction ..

Some people get addicted to pornography this way..
Some people get addicted to drugs this way

How does a person get free of these addictions?
How does a person break these habits?
How does a person experience victory?

VI. CONSIDER THIS PATTTERN OF VICTORY OVER TEMPTATION

- 1. First of all a person must experience true Holy Spirit filling.. That only comes by way of Salvation..***
- 2. Secondly a person needs to experience the sting of sin..***

James 1:14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

James 1:15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

What did I experience when I took a puff of that cigarette.. I experienced the sensation of death.. Sickness..

I Corinthians 15:56 The sting of death [is] sin; and the strength of sin [is] the law.
I Corinthians 15:57 But thanks [be] to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Hebrews 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

Hebrews 12:8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

God made the prodigal son experience a famine
God made Paul kick against the pricks

THE MOST DANGEROUS DRUNK IS A FUNCTIONAL DRUNK..
THE MOST DANGEROUS ADDICT IS A FUNCTIONAL ADDICT..

The blessings are actually found in the hardships..
The blessed man is the man that does not get away with anything..

Those who sin .. commit adultery .. live in excess and prosper in this world.. they are not the blessed ones.. THERE IS NO HOPE FOR THEM!!

The blessed ones are the afflicted..
The blessed ones are they that mourn..
The blessed ones are the poor..

John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

John 3:20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd.

John 3:21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

Luke 6:24 But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation.

Luke 6:25 Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep.

Luke 6:26 Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

**3. VICTORY COMES WHEN AFTER CHASTENING WE COME TO OUR SENSES
WE ARE RESTORED TO OUR RIGHT MIND..**

No one repents of their sin until they get a distaste of sin.. or see that the wages of sin is death!!

What made the prodigal son come to his senses..

Luke 15:12 And the younger of them said to [his] father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth [to me]. And he divided unto them [his] living.

Luke 15:13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

Luke 15:14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

Luke 15:15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

Luke 15:16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

Luke 15:17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

Luke 15:18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

Luke 15:19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

Here we see true repentance..

THIS YOUNG MAN GOT A DISTASTE FOR SIN.. HE SPIT OUT HIS CIGERRETTE..
HE TORE UP THE PACKAGE.. HE THREW HIS BEER IN THE SINK!!!
HE CAME TO HIS SENSES...

He said.. I will return to my heavenly Father..

I will leave this strange land of sin and pleasure for a season..
The season has ended.. now I will return to my father..

So there is now a proper mindset.. he came to his senses..
There is repentance from sin..
There is a turning to righteousness...

This is what we read in .. THIS IS DELIVERENCE!!!

II Timothy 2:25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

II Timothy 2:26 And [that] they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

A person is recovered..

A person is salvaged..

A LIFE IS DELIVERED!!!

OTHER EXAMPLES OF THOSE WHO SUCCESSFULLY CONQUERED TEMPTATION

Review: How did we Define Temptation:

Entry Word: temptation

Text: Synonyms LURE 2, allurement, bait, come-on, decoy, enticement, inveiglement, seducement, snare, trap

Intro: A temptation is an allurement, enticement to do something..
It is usually a trap.. seducement..

What elements are the elements of our make up that cause us to be tempted..

Lust..

Curiosity concerning Evil

Walking in the flesh..

Catering to the flesh

What are the principles that will help us overcome temptation

Daniel An Example To Follow In being Victorious Over temptations

Daniel 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

Daniel 1:9 Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

Daniel 1:10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which [are] of your sort? then shall ye make [me] endanger my head to the king.

Daniel 1:11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

Daniel 1:12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.

Daniel 1:13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.

Daniel 1:14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

Daniel 1:15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

Daniel 1:16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

Daniel 1:17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

Daniel 1:18 Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

Daniel 1:19 And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king.

Daniel 1:20 And in all matters of wisdom [and] understanding, that the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians [and] astrologers that [were] in all his realm.

I. Daniel learned to be disciplined from his youth:

Character and patterns of failure are often learned from our youth..

Daniel had to have learned these things from his youth..

He knew the Levitical law and dietary laws.. and had disciplined his life to have observed them..

Today.. we often fail to train up our children in the things of God.. and then we wonder why they fail as they get older..

It is up to us to instill in them character and teach them the law of God .. the thou shalt and thou shalt not..

II. Daniel learned to stand alone and not to allow others to sway him when it came to doing the will of God..

Daniel 1:3 And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring [certain] of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes; Daniel 1:4 Children in whom [was] no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as [had] ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.

Daniel 1:5 And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king.

There were others from the Israel besides Daniel, Meshack, Shadrack, and Abendigo..

Greatest failure in the area of temptation is the failure to be able to stand alone..

Daniel learned to stand alone..

He had no parents to tell him to pray..
He had no mother or father..

Eve was tempted by one who was familiar to her.. the serpent..
The serpent was no stranger to Eve..

Amnon was encouraged to yield to temptation by a familiar friend..

II Samuel 13:1 And it came to pass after this, that Absalom the son of David had a fair sister, whose name [was] Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her.

II Samuel 13:2 And Amnon was so vexed, that he fell sick for his sister Tamar; for she [was] a virgin; and Amnon thought it hard for him to do any thing to her.

II Samuel 13:3 But Amnon had a friend, whose name [was] Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother: and Jonadab [was] a very subtil man.

II Samuel 13:4 And he said unto him, Why [art] thou, [being] the king's son, lean from day to day? wilt thou not tell me? And Amnon said unto him, I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister.

II Samuel 13:5 And Jonadab said unto him, Lay thee down on thy bed, and make thyself sick: and when thy father cometh to see thee, say unto him, I pray thee, let my sister Tamar come, and give me meat, and dress the meat in my sight, that I may see [it], and eat [it] at her hand.

II Samuel 13:6 So Amnon lay down, and made himself sick: and when the king was come to see him, Amnon said unto the king, I pray thee, let Tamar my sister come, and make me a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may eat at her hand.

II Samuel 13:7 Then David sent home to Tamar, saying, Go now to thy brother Amnon's house, and dress him meat.

Daniel had the victory because he stood alone... it is our friends often to will influence us to do wrong..

Joseph in the Bible was able to over come temptation because he learned not to be influenced by his wicked brothers..

Genesis 37:2 These [are] the generations of Jacob. Joseph, [being] seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad [was] with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.

That is probably why he learned not to be swayed by Potiphar's wife..

Peter had a weakness in this area.. and it was for this reason that he denied the Lord.. also when the Lord was resurrected the Lord rebuked for looking and wondering about John

Later in his ministry Paul had to rebuke him because he was swayed by the Jewish Christians who were separating themselves from the gentiles and wouldn't eat with them..

Most of us are weak in some areas.. and easily tempted.. by friends..

III. Daniel Had positive Worship Habits that Were Stronger Than Even the Greatest Of Temptations

Daniel 6:4 Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he [was] faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.

Daniel 6:5 Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find [it] against him concerning the law of his God.

Daniel 6:6 Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever.

Daniel 6:7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.

Daniel 6:8 Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

Daniel 6:9 Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.

Daniel 6:10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

Daniel 6:11 Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.

Daniel 6:12 Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask [a petition] of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing [is] true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

Daniel 6:13 Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which [is] of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.

Daniel 6:14 Then the king, when he heard [these] words, was sore displeased with himself, and set [his] heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him.

Daniel 6:15 Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians [is], That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.

I wonder if a decree were signed making it illegal to worship God or go to church for 30 days I wonder what our attendance would be the next month... In fact if the law stipulated for violating this law you would get the electric chair.. how many would show up..

This law would have meant that no one could pray to any God.. no one could go to church.. ...

Our habits of worship often will deliver us from temptation..

Habits of Prayer..

Habits of Church attendance

Habits of Bible reading..

Habits of Witnessing..

Daniel was so consistent in his worship of God that his enemies knew right to catch him and when to catch him...

Remember our Lord gave a key ingredient for victory over temptation..

HE SAID PRAY..

DELIVER US FROM TEMPTATION AND EVIL..

As we are fellowshiping with God we are protected from wrong influences..

Mary when she sat at the feet of Jesus was oblivious to Martha's anger towards her..

Martha was busy about doing other things...

We should choose the greater things.....

Fellow with putting wrong transmission in his car.. skipped church

Fellow stayed home from church frantic he lost his keys..

They were in the clothes washer.. better off coming to church and making a prayer request..

David had free time on his hand and got in trouble with Bathsheba..

Daniel had no free time he was busy praying..

If you will be busy doing what God wants you to do, you will be delivered from the greater part of temptations..

I. Daniel learned to be disciplined from his youth:

II. Daniel learned to stand alone and not to allow others to sway him when it came to doing the will of God..

III Daniel Maintained Positive Habits of Worship..