

LESSON 6

TEMPTATION AND HOW TO HANDLE IT

Introduction:

1. Definition: To incite or solicit, or to entice to do something by arguments that are convincing.
2. Distinct from sin: Jesus was "tempted...as we are, yet without sin." **Hebrews 4:15.**

A. The methods of Temptation:

1. The exhortation to do right: (temptation as a trial or test of God to do right)
 - a. Controlled by God. **Job 1:12; 2:6; I Corinthians 10:13.**
 - b. The consequences:
 - (1) Faith strengthened. **I Peter 1:7; James 1:2-4**
 - (2) Future rewards. **Genesis 22:1-18; I Peter 4:12-14.**
2. The enticement to do wrong: **James 1:14,15.**
 - a. The root of enticement. Satan **Matthew 4:1-3; I Thessalonians 3:5.**
 - b. The routes of enticement: **I John 2:15,16**
 - (1) The flesh = 2 wants.
 - (2) The eye.
 - (3) The pride of life = 1 vaunt.
(desires are usually okay **I Peter 2:2**, but watch out for "lust") examples: Eve **Genesis 3:1-6**
Jesus **Matthew 4:3-11.**
 - c. The reason for the enticement:
 - (1) Test our love for God. **Deuteronomy 13:1-3, Joseph Genesis 39:6-10.**
 - (2) To reveal our weaknesses. **Job 27:1-6, 31:1-6, 32:1,2.**

B. How to Meet Temptation:

1. Be Expectant - It's coming **James 1:2; I Peter 4:12** usually after the "mountain top" experience. **Matthew 3:16-4:1.**

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2. Be Expert with the shield of faith. **Ephesians 6:16**
Note Jesus' use of scripture in dealing with the devil **Matthew 4:4; "resist him in the faith". I Peter 5:8,9.**

3. Be Experienced:
 - a. Let it happen. **James 1:2-4.**
 - b. Practice makes perfect. **Romans 5:3-5.**

C. How to Miss some Temptation:

1. Change our lifestyle. **II Corinthians 6:14-16; Psalm 1:1; Proverbs 13:20.**
2. Control your "looks". **Psalms 101:3**
examples: **Genesis 3:6; Joshua 7:21; II Samuel 11:2.**
3. Careful of what you listen to. **Ecclesiastes 7:5; Romans 10:17; II Peter 2:8.**
4. Keep faithful. **Revelation 3:10.**
5. Keep prayerful. **Matthew 26:41; Proverbs 30:7-9; II Peter 2:9.**

QUESTIONS FOR LESSON 6

1. The definition of temptation is to _____ to do something by arguments that are convincing. Temptation is _____ from sin because Jesus was tempted yet he did not sin according to Hebrews 4:15.

2. One of the methods of temptation is the _____ to do right which is a trial or test of God to do right. This test is _____ by God and the consequences are that our faith is _____ and by passing the test we are assured of future _____.
3. Another method of temptation is the _____ to do wrong. At the root of this is the spiritual being called _____.
4. The three routes of enticements are the _____, the _____, and the _____ of life.
5. There are two reasons for the enticements to do wrong. One is to test our _____ for God and to reveal our _____.
6. The Bible teaches us how to meet temptation by being expectant. One must realize that temptation is _____ and usually it will be after the _____ experience.
7. Another principle in meeting temptation is to learn to be an expert with the _____ of _____. In Matthew 4:4 we see Jesus using _____ in dealing with the devil and resisting him in the _____.
8. Last of all, in meeting temptation the Christian must be experienced by letting temptations _____ because we know that practice makes _____ if effectively handling temptation.
9. Two things that can be done to avoid temptation is change our _____ and secondly, control our _____ with our eyes.
10. Lastly, to avoid temptation we should be careful of what we _____ to and we should keep _____ with our duties to God and we should be _____ in our fellowship with God.