

TEMPTATION

Introduction – If sin was not tempting then no one would want to sin. We need to know what tempts us and how to resist it.

A. The First Temptation

Genesis 2:15-17; 2:25-3:10

1. They were allowed to eat freely of any tree in the garden but one.
2. Satan's main point is always: "Did God say?"
3. Eve evaluated the satanic assertion with three empirical tests.

1 John 2:15-17

4. Sinners are evangelistic – so Eve influenced Adam to join the rebellion.
5. The immediate results of sin are shame and a desire to hide from others and God. These are symptoms of spiritual death.
6. "Where are you?"

B. Jesus Models How to Resist Temptation

Luke 4:1-13

1. Jesus fasted from food for forty days before intense hunger returned.
2. Satan attacked Jesus' true identity by suggesting shortcuts to fulfilling His mission to save the world.
3. First he tempted Him with the appetite of the flesh. Use your power for selfish purposes and become an economic Messiah.
4. Secondly he tempted Him with the lust of the eyes when showing Him all the kingdoms of the world. Worship me and I will give you all authority over everyone without the cross or any sacrifice.
5. Jesus resisted each temptation by applying Scripture to it.
6. Then Satan tries to use Scripture to encourage Jesus to act pridefully and test God.
7. Satan is always looking for an opportune time to tempt us again.

Conclusion – God will provide an escape route for us from every temptation.

1 Corinthians 10:13