

## Temptation

## Temptation

- What is temptation? It is a trial, a test of one's faithfulness. (Jas. 1:2; 1 Pet. 1:6-7)
- What or who tempts a Christian?  
God is not the source, He cannot tempt us. (Jas. 1:13)

He allows us to be tried.

## Temptation

- Satan is the source (Gen. 3:4-6; Mt. 4:1-11), using our own carnal desires against us. (Jas. 1:14)
- There are three avenues of temptation

## Avenues of Temptation

- What are the avenues of temptation? (1 John 2:15-16)
  - 1) Lust of the eyes—looks good
  - 2) Lust of the flesh—carnal desire
  - 3) Pride of life—a reason to glory

## The Process

- What is the process? (James 1:14-15).  
Temptation comes through enticement with our desires. Sin is the ultimate result.

## Entice

- Greek – *Deleazo* :  
Strong's – to entrap, allure, beguile, entice.  
Thayer – to bait, to catch by bait.
- Satan uses bait to catch us. He's smart!

## Enduring the Trial

- How much can we endure? *All of it!* (1 Cor. 10:13)  
We can take confidence in knowing that God will never allow us to be tempted beyond that which we can endure. So there's no excuse for us.

## Sin and Temptation

- Do we sin when we are tempted? *No.* (Mt. 18:5-7) It is a fact of life that temptations must come, but we are to be careful that we do not bring a occasion for stumbling to anyone!

## Sin and Thought

- Does this mean that we cannot sin *in thought*, that is, can we sin without committing the overt act? *Yes!!!* (Mt. 5:28) The person who sins in thought is the one who has determined to sin as soon as opportunity comes.

## How to Prepare

- Reinforce yourselves with "it is written" just as the Lord did. (Mt. 4:1-11).
- Make no provision for the flesh. (1 Cor. 6:18; Rom. 13:14).

## How Prepare

- Leave a tempting situation (Gen. 39:6-12), taking the way of escape provided by the Lord. (1 Cor. 10:13).
- Fill your life with the work that God has commanded you to do. (Eph. 4:27; 5:16-17).

## When We Fall

- What must we do when we fall? Godly sorrow must be our motivation to repent. (2 Cor. 7:10)
- Repent (Acts 8:21-22)

## When We Fall

- Pray to God for forgiveness. (Acts 8:22; 1 John 2:1)
  - Pray with faith. (Jas. 1:6-8)
  - Ask for wisdom to learn from the experience. (Jas. 1:5)
- Confess our sins to our brethren Christ, for their prayers will avail much. (Jas. 5:16)

## When We Fall

- Count the temptation as joy, knowing that it is producing patience and strength in you. (1 Pet. 1:6-7; Jas. 1:2-3)

## Temptation

- Are you ready to fight the good fight and face the trials ahead in your life?