

Victory Over Temptation

James 1:12-18

May 22, 2022 | Jeremy Chasteen, Lead Pastor for Strategy

BIG IDEA: Victory over temptation brings life.

I. Perseverance under trial leads to blessing

James 1:12 | “Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.”

2 Timothy 4:7-8 | “7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.”

II. Giving into temptation leads to death

1. God does not tempt

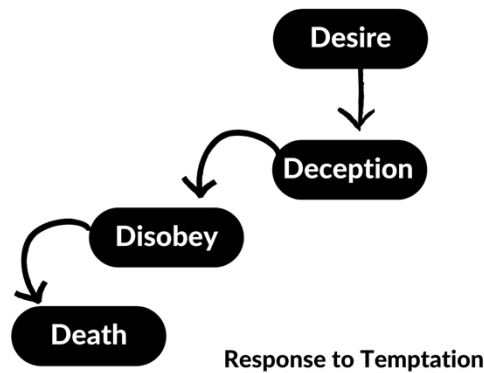
James 1:13 | “Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God,’ for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.”

1 Corinthians 10:13 | “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.”

2. Our wrong response to temptation leads to death

James 1:14-15 | “14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.”

The response to temptation



i. Desire

ii. Deception

1 Peter 5:8-9a | “8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9 Resist him, firm in your faith,”

James 1:14 | “But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.”

iii. Disobedience

James 1:15a | “Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin,”

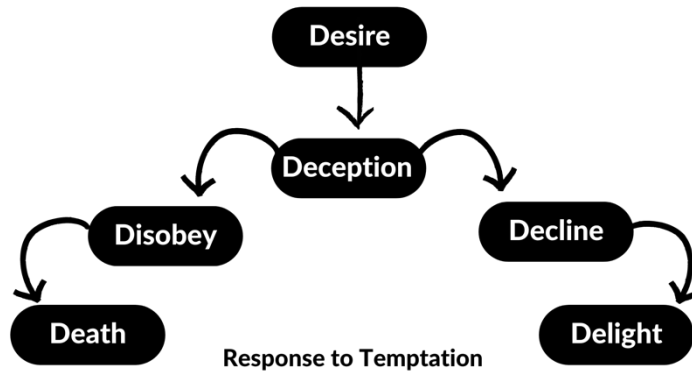
iv. Death

James 1:15b | “...sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.”

Matthew 7:13-14 | “13 ‘Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. 14 For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.’”

III. Believing in the truth leads to life

1. Decline the desires and deception that lead to death



James 1:16 | “Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.”

Romans 13:14 | “But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.”

Galatians 5:24 | “And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”

2. Delight in the truth of the gospel

James 1:17-18 | “17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.”

Romans 8:22-23 | “22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. 23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”

Where are you at on the path of temptation?

i. Deception

ii. Disobedient

James 4:4 | “You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”

iii. Discouraged

1 John 1:9 | “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Romans 8:1-2 | “1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.”

Benediction

Galatians 5:22-24 | “22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”