

Temptation | Mark 1:12-13 | Matt. 4:1-11 | Gen. 3:1-7 | Sept 29, 2018

Fascination with Satan: Art – Stage – Radio – Books – Movies – Television... Name a media

→ Fred Astaire – Burges Meredith – Jack N. – Robert De – Al Pacino – Will Smith – Jennifer Love Hewitt

Dante's inferno → Looney Tunes... devil depicted Bible... not a sermon... one of two... open

Mark 1:12-13 Look at two stories of temptation (Gen & Matt) Failure / Victory – Warning / Hope

Satan = Devil. Serpent. Dragon. Bee'Liel. Beelzebub. Lucifer. "Prince of the Power of the Air". "Evil one".

"Murderer from beginning". "Originator of sin". "Father of lies". "Ruler of demons". Adversary.

Accuser. god of this world... tempter

Satan = Personal name for the head of the demons; who are evil angels who sinned by rebelling against God,

and are now hostile opponents of grace and work evil in this world. Satan worship = confuses me...

because he hates you!

Demons will try every tactic to blind people to the Gospel and keep them in bondage to things that hinder them from coming to God.

→ Lies, deception, murder, any destructive activity to attempt to cause people to turn away from God and destroy themselves.

There is no reason to think there is any less demonic activity in the world today. NT

→ They use doubt, guilt, fear, confusion, sickness, envy, pride, slander... any means possible to hinder a Christian's witness and usefulness → "the devil made me do it"

Temptation < Desire = Sin

The failure in Eden: Victory in the Wilderness = Warning & Hope

1. Doubt leads to disbelief (Gen. 3:1-3 | Matt. 4:1-4) "Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'you shall not eat of any tree in the Garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die?'" Every sin is rooted in disbelief! I don't believe what God said!

- God had commanded = do not eat of the 'tree of the knowledge of Good & Evil' = obedience

Temptation = Doubt "Did God actually say?" = Eve knew what God had actually said... repeated!

• Drinking = I'll just drive by | I'll just say hi | "Did God really say?" ←

• Purity = I'll just make a joke... | I'll just get her # for work | We'll both have to eat | Why would we take two cars?

Doubt leads to disbelief... I think I know better than God does... how's that working?

Victory = Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

Look at the seeds of doubt = "If you're the Son of God"... you know darn well who this is!

Is making bread sinful? Why would your Father bring you here to starve?!?!

If Satan had gotten Jesus to sin... HE would not have been able to offer himself as the ransom at the cross... perfect spotless lamb... sinner cannot absolve a sinner!

(4) But He answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Deut. 8:3) Satan thought = Weakness | Who brought Jesus into wilderness?

* I don't need to trust in bread! I trust my Father! I have no doubt... no disbelief

→ What am I doing in ABQ? Trust me! Count on me! No bread- Grace! Are you in the desert? Feel weak? Do not let doubt lead you away... trust = God's Word & Spirit

2. Position leads to Presumption (Gen 3:4-5 | Matt 4:5-7) Failure – But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing Good and evil."

Sin = You will be like God | Knew the devastation = I will make myself like the Most High (satan)

→ Us wanting our position to allow us to presume on God... "I deserve _____"

Lie straight from hell = if God won't give it to me... I'll take it!

Presuming on God = Example from Chicago = I thought I was too important to God Eve failed

Victory = (5) Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'on their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone'" Brings Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem... manipulates the scripture (Ps 91:11-12)

You're the Son of God... show His strength... He won't let you get hurt [Beware = manipulators]

(7) Jesus said to Him, "Again, it is written, 'For you shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" (Deut 6:16)

I don't need bread... I don't need God to prove anything!

* Bo Neuhaus = Don't let your position presume you need proof! "Give me a sign" = Jesus!

Don't let temptation → Desire → Sin | Doubt → Disbelief | Position → Presumption

3. Rationalization leads to justification (Gen 4:6 | Matt 4:8-10) Failure = So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate." Hear it? Echo (Wow)

Good for food.. delight to the eyes (Oscar Wilde = I can resist everything except temptation)

→ Rationalization = Sin is alluring | I won the argument (pride) | My wife is less interested (lust)

We have an amazing ability to justify our sin through rationalization

Victory = (8) Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And He said to him, "All these I will give you, if you fall down and worship me." Why don't you skip this mission you're on... I'll give it to you...

Think through the implications... all he has to get it all is to take worship from the Father

"Be gone Satan" (10) Then Jesus said to him, "Be Gone Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" That's enough!

My last drink → I won't worship the bottle! You have to get to... that's enough! God gets my worship now... not my fear = not my addiction – Not my pride

Fill it in... right now... in your mind... God gets my worship... Not my _____!

We haven't talked about hope...

Starting on Page 2 and person 2 of the bible, humanity has fallen into temptation... we are either struggling with sin or striving toward righteousness

We're sinners

* The hope = Jesus Christ overcame every temptation. Now we have a Savior who stands in the gap between our sin and God's justice

Doubt that leads to disbelief | Position that leads to presumption | Rationalization that leads to justification

Paid for at the Cross by Christ

Pray