

# Tackling Temptations

## 1 Corinthians 10:13-15

### I. Intro

#### ● Anecdote

#### • Temptations

- Today - we're gonna talk about temptations - and just to be clear - temptations are those things that entice us to sin...
- ...and not only that - but - temptations are the trials - that test our fidelity - integrity - virtue - and loyalty.
- And if we're perfectly honest with ourselves today - then we must confess that we all face temptations to sin - each and every day.
- This includes the temptation to lie - as well as the temptation to gossip.
- This includes the temptation to engage in destructive behaviors - and this includes the temptation to engage in sexual immorality.
- And I have no doubt that we all wrestle the temptation to overeat - as well as the temptation to engage in substance abuse.
- Without debate - we all struggle with all sorts of temptations - each and every day.

### II. Outline

#### ● Points

#### • Tackle

- Thankfully for us - the Bible provides us with spiritual instructions - that help us tackle every temptation.

- And as we study the scriptures before us today - we'll begin to see that...
  1. ...God helps us to Tackle the Temptations that Entice
  2. ...God helps us to Tackle the Temptations that Ensnare
  3. ...God helps us to Tackle the Temptations that Enslave
- With this as our outline - let's open our Bibles to 1st Corinthians chapter 10...
- ...where we find Paul - helping his audience to understand how the Lord helps us to Tackle every Temptation.

### III. Entice

- Set up

- Context

- As we make our way to the tenth chapter of 1st Corinthians - I wanna take a moment to put our text - back into it's context.
- It'll help us to remember that Paul was responding to the questions previously presented - by the Christians in Corinth.
- He not only challenged them avoid the sin of sexual immorality...
  - ...but he also warned them about the issues that arise - whenever we allow our liberties - to cause other Christians to stumble.
  - And knowing that every Christian is tempted to engage in the sins that so easily ensnare us...
  - ...Paul took the time to encourage his audience - to look to the Lord for the help we need - so that we can overcome every temptation.
  - With this as our focus - let's pick up our study of 1st Corinthians 10 beginning there at verse 13 - where Paul declared...

- Text

1Co 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

1Co 10:14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

1Co 10:15 I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say.

- Temptation

- Here in these verses - we find Paul - helping his audience to understand that - the Lord is here to help us - tackle every temptation.

- Just to be clear - it'll help you to know that the word - temptation - was translated from a Greek word...

- ...which refers to the troubles - and the trials - that entice us to sin.

- And whether we're talking about external adversities - - or internal affections...

- ...I can assure you that the Lord isn't the One - Who is tempting us to sin.

- Now - instead - these temptations that entice us to sin - are based on the desires that we already have in our hearts.

- Temptation

- In order to prove my point - let's consider the way that James explained it - in his epistle.

- Hold your place here in 1st Corinthians - and let's turn in our Bibles to James chapter 1...

- ...as as we make our way to the first chapter of James - I should take a moment to point out that...

- ...we really can't be tempted - by those things that we have no desire for already.
- For example - I can't be tempted by a plate of steaming squash - and the reason why is because - I don't like squash.
- You will never see me committing the sin of gluttony - after giving in to the temptation - created by a plate full of squash.
- Chocolate cake on the other hand - - now that's another story.
- Desires
- Let's consider how James explained it - here in the first chapter of his epistle.
- Look with me - beginning there at verse 13 - where he declared...
 

Jas 1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

Jas 1:14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.

Jas 1:15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

Jas 1:16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.
- Here in these verses - we find James - assuring his audience that - our temptations begin with the desires that are hidden in our hearts.
- And while it's true that these desires aren't in-and-of themselves - sinful...
- ...it's also true that those act upon their depraved desires - end up engaging in the sins that destroy our lives.
- It's for this reason that we must look to the Lord - to help us deny the enticement of every temptation.
- And with this as our goal - let's consider how the way that the Lord Jesus tackled the temptations of Satan.

- Enticed
  - Continue holding your place - there in 1st Corinthians - and let's turn in our Bibles - to gospel of Matthew.
  - Let's turn to Matthew chapter 4 - and as we make our way to the fourth chapter of Matthew's gospel account...
  - ...I wanna take a moment to point out that - it's here in this chapter where Matthew presents us with his account...
    - ...of the time when Satan tempted the Lord Jesus - according to the desires of His heart.
    - And as we consider the way that the Lord Jesus tackled these temptations...
      - ...we must not fail to notice that - the Holy Spirit led the Lord Jesus into the wilderness - where he was tempted by the devil.
- Hunger
  - Let's consider the apostle's account - found here in Matthew 4 - look with me beginning there at verse 1 - where we learn that...

Mat 4:1 ...Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Mat 4:2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.

Mat 4:3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

Mat 4:4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

- Here in these verses - we learn about the day when the Devil tempted the Lord Jesus - to perform a miracle for selfish reasons.

- Being that He hadn't eaten for forty days and forty nights - then - it's not hard to imagine that He was hungry.
- And while it's true that the Devil enticed Him to use His power to turn stones into bread...
  - ...it's also true that the Lord Jesus tackled that temptation with the truth of God's word.
  - And in this way - we can see how the word of God helps us to tackle the temptations that entice our flesh.

- Revelation

- We should also consider how Satan tempted Jesus - by enticing His desire to reveal His divine identity.
- Look with me again - there at Matthew chapter 4 - beginning at verse 5 - we learn that...

Mat 4:5 ...the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple,

Mat 4:6 and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written:

'He shall give His angels charge over you,'

and,

'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'

Mat 4:7 Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'"

- Here in these verses - we learn about the day when the Devil tempted the Lord Jesus...
  - ...to reveal His divine identity - by attempting to altar the will of God the Father.
  - And while we can be certain that the Lord Jesus had a desire to reveal His divine nature to those He came to save...

- ...we can also be sure that Satan was enticing Him to sin - so that He would fail to accomplish the will of God.
- Therefore - we can rejoice in knowing that Jesus tackled that temptation - with the truth of God's word.

- Authority

- We should also consider how Satan tempted Jesus - by enticing His desire to reveal His almighty authority.
- Look with me again - there at Matthew chapter 4 - beginning at verse 8 - we learn that...

Mat 4:8 ...the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

Mat 4:9 And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

Mat 4:10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

Mat 4:11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

- Here in these verses - we learn about the day when the Devil tempted the Lord Jesus - to reveal His almighty authority - before the right time.
- And while we can be sure - that Jesus had a desire to rule and reign over the kingdoms of the world...
- ...we can also see how Satan was using that desire - to entice Christ Jesus...
- ...to obtain the object of His desire - in a sinful way.
- Thankfully for us - the Lord Jesus tackled every temptation - with the truth of God's word.

- Application

- Word

- And just like Jesus - we'll all do well to realize that the word of God will provide us with the power we need - to tackle every temptation.

- Let's consider how the Psalmist explained it - in the 119th Psalm - it's beginning at verse 9 - where he asked...

Psa 119:9 How can a young man cleanse his way?

By taking heed according to Your word.

Psa 119:10 With my whole heart I have sought You;

Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!

Psa 119:11 Your word I have hidden in my heart,

That I might not sin against You.

- If you're struggling to tackle the temptations that entices you - then...

- ...the best thing that you can do is seek the wisdom that is found in God's word.

- And much like the Lord Jesus - Who tackled every temptation with the word of God...

- ...the Christian who hides God's word in their heart - through the discipline of scripture memorization...

- ...will receive the wisdom we need - to turn away from the temptations that entice us.

- Transition

- Points

1. And listen - God is not only able to help us to Tackle the Temptations that Entice....

2. ...but - God also able to help us to Tackle the Temptations that Ensnare

- With this as our focus - let's turn back to 1st Corinthians chapter 10...

- ...where we find Paul - helping his audience to understand how to escape the temptations that ensnare us.
- Look with me again - there at verse 13 - where he declared...

#### IV. Ensnare

- Text

1Co 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

- Common
  - As we take another look at this verse - we must not fail to notice that - these temptations that we all wrestle with - are common to man.
  - That word - common - was translated from a Greek word - which refers to the natural conditions - experienced by every person.
  - And while there are many who think that they are the only one's who are wrestling with their temptations...
    - ...it's important for us to realize that - the temptations that entice us to sin...
    - ...are really no different - from the temptations that other people are wrestling with.
      - And just to be clear - every temptation can be divided into three distinct categories.
- Examples
  - I like the way that the apostle John summed it up - in 1st John chapter 2 - it's beginning at verse 15 - where he declared...

1Jo 2:15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1Jo 2:16 For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

- Every sin falls into one of these three categories - which includes the lust of the flesh - the lust of the eyes - and the pride of life.
- And whether we're talking about Greed - Gluttony - or godless idolatries...
  - ...every temptation that entices us to sin - is based on the lust of the flesh - the lust of the eyes - or the pride of life.
  - And while it's true that all of these temptations are common to man...
    - ...it's also true that those who give in to these temptations will end up being ensnared by the sins that so easily entangle us.
- Addictions
- In order to prove my point - let's consider the way that Paul put it - in the first letter that he sent to Pastor Timothy.
- Hold your place - here in 1st Corinthians - and let's turn in our Bibles to 1st Timothy chapter 6...
- ...and as we make our way to the sixth chapter of 1st Timothy - I wanna take a moment to point out that...
  - ...those who give in to the temptations that entice us - will soon find themselves ensnared by those sins.
  - And whether we're talking about the lust of the flesh - the lust of the eyes - or the pride of life...
    - ...temptations can quickly become addictions - that end up destroying our lives.
- Wealth

- Let's consider how Paul put it - here in 1st Timothy chapter 6 - look with me beginning there at verse 6 - where he declared...

1Ti 6:6            Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

1Ti 6:7            For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

1Ti 6:8            And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

1Ti 6:9            But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

1Ti 6:10           For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

- Here in these verses - we find Paul - helping pastor Timothy to understand how the temptation to become rich - can ensnare the believer.
  - And while it's not a sin to earn a living - - - it's the love of money that becomes a root of all kinds of evil.
  - That being the case - Paul warned pastor Timothy - about those who are ensnared by this temptation.
    - The reason why is because - those believers will fall into many foolish and harmful lusts...
      - ...that plunge people into ruin and destruction - resulting in many sorrows.
- Sorrows
  - Proof of my point can be found in the fact that - Millionaires want to become Billionaires - and Billionaires want to become Trillionaires.
  - In other words - those who desire to be rich - will end up being ensnared by the limitless temptation to acquire more wealth.
  - And listen - this is not only true of the greedy desire - that leads many to pursue the wealth of this world...

- ...but - this is also true of every other temptation that leads us into a life of sin.
- And whether we're talking about the lust of the flesh - the lust of the eyes - or the pride of life...
  - ...the lives of those who are given over to their temptations - will become addicted to the sins that so easily ensnares us.
- Able
  - Thankfully for us - the Lord is faithful to help us tackle every Temptation - and with this as our focus - let's make our way back to 1st Corinthians 10.
  - Let's take another look - there at verse 13 - where Paul declared...

1Co 10:13a No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able...

- Now - I wanna stop right here so that we can consider the point that Paul was making.
- According to Paul - God is faithful to shield us from temptations that we are unable to conquer.
  - And while this is not to suggest that the temptations are easy to tackle...
    - ...we can rejoice in knowing that every temptation that we wrestle with - has been filtered through the faithfulness of God.
      - And what this means is that - - no Christian can make the excuse that - we just couldn't control ourselves.
- Self Control
  - In order to make my case - let's consider the fruit of the Spirit that Paul presented in Galatians chapter 5.

- It's beginning at verse 22 - where he declared...

Gal 5:22 ...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal 5:23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

- Those who are walking in the power of the Holy Spirit - will produce the fruit of the Spirit.
  - And listen - the fruit of the Spirit includes the self-control that enables us to tackle every Temptation.
    - That's right - the Christian who is walking in the power of the Holy Spirit...
      - ...will receive the spiritual strength we need - to take control of our lives - so that we can gain the victory over every temptation.
- Escape
  - Paul confirmed this here in our text today - look with me again - there at verse 13 - where he declared...
 

1Co 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.
  - Here in the second half of this verse - we find Paul - assuring his audience that the God Who filters the temptations that we face...
    - ...is the same God Who faithfully provides us with a way to escape the temptations that so easily ensnare us.
    - That word - escape - found there at the of verse 13 - was translated from a Greek word - which in this context...
      - ...was used of an exit strategy - that enables a person to evade the snare of temptation.

- And while it's true that temptations can ensnare us - - it's also true that the Lord provides us with a way to escape the snare.

## ● Application

### • Deliver

- I like the way that the apostle Peter put it - in 2nd Peter chapter 2 - it's verse 9 where he assured us that...

2Pe 2:9 ...the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment...

- Christian - listen - the Lord not only provides us with a way to escape the snare of our temptations...
  - ...but — He will actually deliver those Who desire to live a godly life - by faith in Jesus Christ.
  - In other words - our God is faithful to rescue those who will seek His heavenly help.
  - It's for this reason that we should take the time to pray for this help - so that we can tackle every temptation.
  - And in order to make my case - let's consider how Paul encouraged us to tackle temptations - with prayer.

### • All Points

- I like the way that Paul put it - in Hebrews chapter 4 - it's verses 15 and 16 where he declared...

Heb 4:15 ...we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- Christian - listen - the Lord Jesus is able to sympathize with our weaknesses - and the reason why is because...
- ...He experienced the same enticements that we all endure - - and yet - - He was able to escape the snare of every temptation.
- And now that He's risen from the dead - our Savior is seated at the throne of grace...
- ...where He is ready to help every believer - escape the sinful snare of every temptation.
- And it's for this reason that we should prayerfully seek our Savior - for the help we need - to tackle every temptation.
- Lord's Prayer
- Let's consider how the Lord Jesus put it - when He presented His disciples with a model prayer.
- It's in Matthew chapter 6 - beginning at verse 9 - where He declared...

Mat 6:9 "In this manner, therefore, pray:

Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be Your name.

Mat 6:10 Your kingdom come.

Your will be done

On earth as it is in heaven.

Mat 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread.

Mat 6:12 And forgive us our debts,

As we forgive our debtors.

Mat 6:13 And do not lead us into temptation,

But deliver us from the evil one.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

- Here in this model prayer - we find the Lord Jesus - encouraging His disciples...

- ...to spend time asking the Lord - to deliver us from the temptations that so easily ensnare us.
- And listen - this is not only something that we should pray for - before leaving the house in the morning - but...
- ...we should also pray for this deliverance - every time we find ourselves ensnared by the temptations that capture our minds.
- And as we pray - we can rejoice in knowing that God will make the way of escape - so that we can bear the temptation.

## ● Transition

### • Points

- This brings us to our third point - because listen...
  1. ...God is not only able to help us Tackle the Temptations that Entice....
  2. ...and - He's not only able to help us Tackle the Temptations that Ensnare...
  3. ...but - God also able to help us Tackle the Temptations that Enslave.
- With this as our focus - let's turn back to 1st Corinthians chapter 10...
- ...where we find Paul - helping his audience to understand how to escape the temptations that enslave us.
- Look with me again - there at verse 14 - where he declared...

## V. Enslave

### ● Text

1Co 10:14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

1Co 10:15 I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say.

- Idolatry

- Knowing that those who are ensnared by temptations will soon be enslaved...
- ...Paul encouraged the Christians in Corinth to flee from idolatry.
  - And in order to connect the dots between the temptations that enslave us - - and the idolatry that we should flee from...
  - ...it'll help you to know that the Greek word which was rendered - idolatry...
    - ...was not only used of those who worship the carved images that represent their false gods...
      - ...but - the same word was also used of those who worship themselves - as they pursue their personal pleasures.
- Idols
  - Let's consider how Paul put it - in the letter he sent to the Christians in Colossae.
  - Hold your place here in 1st Corinthians - and let's turn in our Bibles to Colossians chapter 3...
  - ...and we we make our way to the third chapter of Colossians - I wanna take a moment to remind you that...
    - ...an idol doesn't have to be a carved image of a false god.
      - An idol is anything that we exalt - over the true and living God.
        - And yes - this includes the idolatry of self-worship - which is the most common form of idolatry today.
- Covetousness
  - In order to make my case - let's consider how Paul put it here in Colossians chapter 3 - look with me beginning there at verse 1 - where he declared...

Col 3:1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

Col 3:2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

Col 3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Col 3:4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Col 3:5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

- Here in these verses - we find Paul - encouraging the Christians in Corinth to dedicate their lives - to the worship of our Savior - Jesus Christ.
- And at the same time - he also challenged them to tackle the temptations...
  - ...that entice us to engage in fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, AND covetousness, which is IDOLATRY.
  - Now - that word - covetousness - was translated from a Greek word - which was used to the greedy desire to acquire more and more.
  - Paul also called Covetousness - idolatry - because - the covetousness is typically rooted in self-worship.
- Flee
- With this in mind - let's turn back to 1st Corinthians chapter 10 - so that we can take another look at verse 14.
- I like the way that the scholars who created the Amplified Version of the Bible rendered this verse - they put it like this...

1Co 10:14 Therefore, my beloved, run [keep far, far away] from [any sort of] idolatry [and that includes loving anything more than God, or participating in anything that leads to sin and enslaves the soul].

- Here in this amplified version of the Bible - we find the scholars amplifying the original intent that Paul was presenting.
- And according to their assessment of the context - - Paul was encouraging his audience to run away...
  - ...from any temptation - that would lead us to love anything else - more than the Lord.
  - And the reason why is because - those are the idols that end up enslaving us.
- Death
  - It's for this reason that Paul encouraged the Christians at the church in Colossae to....
 

Col 3:5 ...put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.
  - Christian - listen - Paul didn't say - toy with the temptations - - and entertain the enticements.
    - No - instead - he directed the disciples of Christ to avoid the temptations that enslave us...
      - ...by putting to death those members - that are weak with worldly lusts.
      - We should crucify those carnal desire - that lead us back into the lust of the flesh - the lust of the eyes - and the pride of life.
        - And this includes the drastic measures that the Lord Jesus presented - - during the sermon on the Mount.
- Drastic
  - It's in Matthew chapter 5 - beginning at verse 27 - where Jesus declared...
 

Mat 5:27 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.'

Mat 5:28 “But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Mat 5:29 “If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

Mat 5:30 “And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

- Now - listen - Jesus wasn't telling us to literally pluck out an eye - - and He didn't intend for us to literally cut off a hand.
- No - instead - He was encouraging us to take drastic measures - so that we can tackle the temptations that enslave us.
- With this as the goal - we should all prayerfully consider the drastic measures that we should take...
- ...in order to flee from the idolatrous temptations - that lead us to worship ourselves.
- And in this way - the Holy Spirit will provide us with the godly guidance we need - to exercise self-control
- Judge
- Let's consider how Paul put it - here in our text today - look with me again - beginning there at verse 14 - where he declared...

1Co 10:14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

1Co 10:15 I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say.

- Here in these verses - we find Paul - helping his audience to understand that...
- ...they were wise enough to realize that what Paul was saying - was true.
- It's for this reason that he encouraged the Christians in Corinth to make the necessary judgments...

- ...that would help them to flee from the temptations that enslave us.
  - And just to be clear - these judgments will lead us make drastic decisions - about the way we live our lives.
- Cut
  - With this as our focus - let's consider how the apostle Peter explained it - in his first epistle.
  - Turn with me to 1st Peter chapter 4 - and as we make our way to the fourth chapter of 1st Peter...
    - ...we should take a moment to examine our own lives by asking...
      - ...am I taking drastic measures - to tackle the temptations that entice - ensnare - and enslave?
      - Am I plucking out the proverbial eye - by refusing to focus on those things that tempt me to sin?
        - Am I severing the proverbial hand - by refusing to handle those things that I shouldn't be touching?
          - Am I fleeing from the temptations - that lead me to worship myself?

## ● Application

- Suffered
  - With these questions in mind - let's consider the challenge that the apostle Peter presented - here in his first epistle.
  - Look with me - there at 1st Peter 4 - beginning at verse 1 - where the apostle declared...

1Pe 4:1 ...since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

1Pe 4:2 that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.

1Pe 4:3 For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.

1Pe 4:4 In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.

- Here in these verses - we find the apostle Peter - reminding his readers - about the way that Christ suffered for us - in the flesh.
- And while this most certain includes the way that He suffered for our sins upon the cross...
  - ...this also included the way that he suffered the temptations that are common to every person.
  - And in light of His example - Peter encouraged every Christian to crucify their sinful desires...
    - ...so that we can live the rest of our lives tackling the temptations that lead us away from the will of God.
- Enough
- With this as the goal - let's consider again how he put it - beginning there at verse 3 - where Peter declared...

1Pe 4:3 ...we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.

1Pe 4:4 In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.

- Christian - listen - we've already wasted enough of our lives - living for the lust of the flesh - the lust of the eyes - and the pride of life.
- It's for this reason that we should flee from those temptations - that lead us back into a life of sin.

- And regardless of the specific temptations that we struggle with - the solution is effectively the same.
- We need to tackle or temptations - by abstaining from the revelries, the drinking parties, and the abominable idolatries...
  - ...that keep us from living our life for the glory of God.
- Crown
  - With this as the goal - we should consider the promise that James presented - to those who tackle every temptation.
  - It's in James chapter 1 - verse 12 - where he declared...

Jas 1:12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

- Christian - listen - those who will learn to tackle their temptations - by the power of God...
  - ...will eventually receive the crown of life - which the Lord has promised to those who truly love Him.
  - And knowing that the idolatry of covetousness is a temptation that leads us to worship ourselves...
    - ...those who want to receive the crown of life must make sure that we are fleeing from idolatry.
    - And it's for this reason that I encourage every Christian - to seek the help of the Lord - so that we can Tackle every Temptation.

## VI. Conclusion

- Wrap up

- Points

- Now - as we begin to wrap up this study - I wanna take a moment to recap the main points of this message - by reminding you that...

1. ...God is able to help us Tackle the Temptations that Entice....

- And regardless of whether we're enticed by the lust of the flesh - the lust of the eyes - or the pride of life...
- ...the Lord has provided us with the instructions we need - so that we can tackle the temptations that entice us.
- And it's for this reason that I encourage every Christian - to spend time studying God's word...
- ...so that we can receive the wisdom we need - to gain the victory over every temptation.

2. I should also remind you that - God can help us Tackle the Temptations that Ensnare...

- And knowing how easy it is - to find ourselves entangled in the temptations that so easily ensnare us...
- ...we can rejoice in knowing that Christ Jesus is a compassionate High Priest - Who was tempted in every way - and yet without sin.
- And now that He has risen from the dead - - He is ready to help those who trust in Him - to tackle every Temptation.
- And it's for this reason that we should spend time praying for His heavenly help.

3. Finally - God is able to help us Tackle the Temptations that Enslave.

- And so - if you're a believer who has been enslaved by the temptations that entice - and ensnare...

- ...then - I encourage you to take drastic measures - by crucifying to carnal cravings that result in idolatry.
- Please trust me when I tell you that - we've wasted enough of our lives...
- ...living for the the lust of the flesh - the lust of the eyes - or the pride of life.
- That being the case - let's look to the Lord for the help we need - so that we can tackle every temptation - according to the will of God.