

Temptation and Scripture

What's the Big Deal About Temptation and Sin?

1. God's command to totally exterminate the people of Canaan. (Deut. 20:11-18)
2. The defeat at Ai and the stoning of Achan and his family. (Joshua 7)
3. Saul's hasty sacrifice that cost him his kingship. (1 Samuel 13:8-15)
4. The death of Uzzah who touched the Ark. (1 Chronicles 9-14)
5. David's numbering the people and the subsequent plague. (1 Chronicles 21:1-17)
6. The death of Ananias and Saphira. (Acts 5:1-11)

Our View of Temptation and Sin, Directly Affects our Perception of Life.

1. Poverty, war, crime, etc. can never be understood apart from sin.
2. A wrong perception of sin can lead to spiritual stagnation and pride.
3. Paul's view of himself shows the closer he got to the light, the more he recognized his sin:
 - a. Early in Paul's ministry, "I am the least of the apostles." (1 Cor. 15:9)
 - b. Later Paul identified himself as, "the least of all saints." (Eph. 3:8)
 - c. Finally toward the end of his life Paul states, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all." (1 Timothy 1:15)
4. When it comes to sin, ignorance is not bliss. What we don't know leads to death!

Knowing Your Enemy.

1. Sin is deceptive, the world markets sin. It appeals to our flesh and passions. (Titus 2:11,12)
2. We trust our own sense of justice, about what is sinful and repugnant to God. (Isaiah 55:8,9)
3. Our own hearts lie to us about the sin in our lives. We can't just trust our gut. (Jeremiah 17:9)

The True Face of Sin.

1. Sin is Rebellion: It is lawlessness. It is the failure to comply to God's holy law. (1 John 3:4)
2. Sin is Perversion: It is to twist or distort God's law and design. (Romans 1:18-32)
3. Sin is getting Lost: It is choosing the path of wickedness. (Matthew 7:13,14)
4. Sin is Emptiness: It is futility and never brings joy or contentment. (Ephesians 4:17)
5. Sin is Unfaithfulness: Sinning is committing spiritual adultery. (Ezekiel 16:15)
6. Sin is Offensive: Sin is doing the opposite of what God wants. (Deut. 31:24-29)
7. Sin is Death: Sin ultimately leads to death; both physical and spiritual. (Romans 6:23)

Why Fighting Temptation and Sin is Smart.

1. Sin has consequences. (Galatians 6:7,8)
2. Sin makes us dirty. (Matthew 23:27,28; Proverbs 26:11)
3. Sinning makes it easier for us to sin more, not less. (Romans 13:14)
4. Sin is not your friend. (1 Peter 2:11)
5. Sinning is always stupid. (Proverbs 14:9)
6. Sinning is futile. (Ephesians 4:17-19)
7. Sinning is always short sighted. (Matthew 7:24-27)
8. Sin leads to hard living. (Proverbs 13:5)
9. Sin leads to slavery. (Romans 6:15,16)

The Importance of Scripture In Resisting Temptation and Sin

Lessons from Psalm 119

1. Scripture leads to a blameless walk with God and the blessings of obedience. (Psalm 119:1-8)
2. Scripture cleanses us from the world. (Psalm 119:9-16)
3. Scripture reveals to us the marvelous blessings of God. (Psalm 119:17-24)
4. Scripture leads to strength in the midst of trials. (Psalm 119:25-32)
5. Scripture and loyalty to God's Word, keeps us from covetousness & vanity. (Psalm 119:33-40)
6. Scripture leads to salvation through the Word of God. (Psalm 119:41-48)
7. Scripture gives us hope and renews our lives. (Psalm 119:49-56; 119:73-80)
8. Scripture and devotion to it, leads to obedience to God. (Psalm 119:57-64)
9. Scripture builds our trust in God. (Psalm 119:65-72)
10. Scripture is faithful and sure, it is dependable. (Psalm 119:81-96)
11. Scripture gives wisdom for wise living. (Psalm 119:97-104)
12. Scripture is a light to lead us in the right path. (Psalm 119:105-112)
13. Scripture is a refuge against evil and evildoers. (Psalm 119:113-120)
14. Scripture gives us an insight into the heart of God. (Psalm 119:121-128)
15. Scripture steadies our walk and keeps us from the dominion of sin. (Psalm 119:129-136)
16. Scripture does not change; God's statutes are true. (Psalm 119:137-144)
17. Scripture brings us closer to God. (Psalm 119:145-152)
18. Scripture gives life. (Psalm 119:153-160)
19. Scripture gives peace and protection from temptation. (Psalm 119:161-168)
20. Scripture brings us back to God when we sin and go astray. (Psalm 119:169-176)

The Man who Meditates on the Word of God (Psalm 1)

