



**(SLIDE #1) FACING TEMPTATION
WITH DETERMINATION -- I SHALL
NOT BE MOVED!**

Introduction:

- A. The Blessings Of Being A Christian Are Beyond Enumeration!

- B. The Future Blessings Of Being A Christian Now Are Unfathomable!

- C. Temptations Are A Serious Challenge To Your Security And To Your Blessings Present And Future.

- D. Two Recent Sermons:
 - 1. On January 6 PM, I preached one of the sermons about the great events of the Bible -- “Great Events Of The Bible -- The Temptation Of Jesus.”

 - 2. Last Sunday, January 20 AM, I presented a lesson for all of us to consider Jesus and how He overcame temptation -- “Imitating Jesus When We Face Temptation!”

- E. Today: How Can You And I Face Temptation With Determination -- “I Shall Not Be Moved?”

- F. What Will Keep You Anchored In Faith And In Faithfulness As You Face Temptation?

I. (Slide #2) Refuse To Listen To The Devil!

- A. The Devil Tempted Jesus; However, Jesus Did Not Heed The Devil’s Temptations!

- B. On The Flipside, Adam & Eve Listened To The Devil! Gen. 3:1
 - 1. Satan initiated the conversation; they listened.

2. “Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, ‘Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?’² And the woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; ³but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.’”⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.
 3. Of course, the “father of lies (Jn. 8:44)” lied!
 4. And Adam and Eve heeded his lie and they paid a terrible price -- they immediately separated themselves from God; they began the decline toward physical death; and their sin introduced sin into the world and brought physical death upon the whole human race!
- C. Js. 4:7 “Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”
1. He left Jesus.
 2. He will do the same thing with you!

II. (Slide #3) Refuse To Let Other Humans Lead You Into Sin!

- A. God Gives So Many Cautions About This Temptation!
1. Do not consent to evil advice!
 - a. Pr. 1:10 “My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent.”
 - b. Pr. 1:15 “My son, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path;”
 - c. Ps. 1:1,2 “Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ²But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.”
 2. Evil people will take you further and further into sin and away from God!
 - a. Pr. 4:14, 15 “Do not enter the path of the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil. ¹⁵Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn away from it and pass on.”
 - b. II Tim. 3:13 “But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.”
- B. Lust Has Caused Many Of A Man Or Woman To Commit Grievous Sins; A Great Percentage Of Them Lose Their Souls!

1. David was idle; he saw a beautiful woman bathing, lusted for her, sent to find out who she was, and committed adultery with her. II Sa. 11:2-5. That one sin led to more egregious sins and brought death and devastation
 2. Solomon disobeyed God by marrying idolatrous women; they led him into idolatry! I Ki. 11:3,4 “And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart. ⁴For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God, as *was* the heart of his father David.”
 3. Control your lusts!
 - a. Js. 1:13-15 “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. ¹⁴But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. ¹⁵Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”
 - b. Control your lust; do not allow your lusts to go any further!
- C. Being Alone Around Sinners Can Cause The Strongest To Fall!
1. Peter was alone among the antagonists and enemies of Jesus! Lk. 22:55 “Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.”
 2. NEVER overestimate your strength!
 - a. God HAS TOLD US that we can overcome temptation! AND WE CAN!
 1. I Cor. 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*.”
 2. He shows how Israel gave in to idolatry, lust, and murmuring; they did not seek a way of escape.
 3. He challenges Christian to be overcomers!
 - b. Jesus took Peter, James, and John further into the Garden from the other Apostles.
 1. He told them to stay and He went further to pray.
 2. When He returned, He found them asleep, and said to Peter, ‘What? Could you not watch with Me one hour?’” Mt. 26:40; also Mk. 14:38
 3. Here Jesus was seeking strength to ENDURE what was facing Him! The Apostles seemed clueless of the strength they were going to need!
 4. Jesus said to Peter: “Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Mt. 26:41

- a. “You believe you want to do right, and you do.”
- b. “However, we are weak in the flesh.”

D. So Often Fear Of Situations Or Fear Of Others Tempts God’s People To Sin!

- 1. Abraham lied about Sarai because he feared he would be killed! Gen. 20:11,12 “And Abraham said, ‘Because I thought, surely the fear of God *is* not in this place; and they will kill me on account of my wife. ¹²But indeed *she is* truly my sister. She *is* the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife.’”
- 2. Isaac lied because he was afraid; he also just imitated his dad! Gen. 20:7 “And the men of the place asked about his wife. And he said, ‘She *is* my sister’; for he was afraid to say, ‘*She is* my wife,’ *because he thought*, ‘lest the men of the place kill me for Rebekah, because she *is* beautiful to behold.’”
- 3. If you are in such a situation, get out quickly!

III. (Slide #4) Do Not Allow Material Things Cause You To Be Lost!

A. The Bible Has A Lot To Say About Covetousness.

- 1. “Jealousy” is resentment of another because of his position, possessions, power, etc.
- 2. “Envy” is a grudging desire for that person’s position, possessions, power, etc.
- 3. “Covetousness” is a willingness to do whatever it takes to obtain his position, possessions, power, etc.

B. Achan Coveted “Stuff” From Jericho!

- 1. “When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it.” Josh. 7:21
- 2. He, his family, and his animals were stoned with stones and burned with fire! Josh. 7:25

C. Remember That Things Are Not Inherently Wrong; However The LOVE Of Them Is Extremely Dangerous!

1. I Tim. 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.”
2. Rule them; do not let things rule you!!!!

IV. (Slide #5) Seek The Way Of Escape, NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES!

- A. No Friendship Is Worth Being Led Into Sin!

- B. If You Face Greater Temptation When You Are Alone Or When You Are The Only Christian Around, Find A Place Where Other Christians Are With You!

- C. Be Determined To Find The Way Of Escape:
 1. It may be a strong and firm “NO!”

 2. It may be to RUN!
 - a. Joseph.
 1. Gen. 39:12 “she caught him by his garment, saying, ‘Lie with me.’ But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside.”
 2. This was a DAILY event! Gen. 39:10
 3. His answer: “I can’t sin against my master and against God!” Gen. 39:7-9
 4. He fled! Gen. 39:11-14
 - b. II Tim. 2:22 “Flee also youthful lusts:”
 - c. Running is NOT a sign of weakness; it is a sign of strength!

V. (Slide #6) Use The Lord’s Weapons!

- A. God Has Given Us Defensive And Offensive Weapons To Help Us Have The Victory!

- B. Eph. 6:11-17 “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the

wicked one. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;”

- C. Rom. 12:21 “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

- D. Realizing That You Are In A Fight Takes Courage, Bravery, And “Bulldog Determination!”
 - 1. “Bulldog Determination” -- “Virtue!”
 - a. II Pet. 1:5,6 “But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith **virtue**, to **virtue** knowledge, ⁶to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness,”
 - b. Be determined NOT to “give in.”

 - 2. Song: “Yield Not To Temptation”

Verse 1:

“Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin;
Each victory will help you some other to win;
Fight manfully onward, dark passions subdue,
Look ever to Jesus, He’ll carry you through.

Refrain

Ask the Savior to help you,
Comfort, strengthen and keep you;
He is willing to aid you,
He will carry you through.

Verse 2:

Shun evil companions, bad language disdain,
God’s Name hold in reverence, nor take it in vain;
Be thoughtful and earnest, kindhearted and true,
Look ever to Jesus, He’ll carry you through.

Verse 3:

To him that o’ercometh, God giveth a crown;
Through faith we shall conquer, though often cast down;
He Who is our Savior our strength will renew;
Look ever to Jesus, He’ll carry you through.”

Refrain

-- Horatio R. Palmer, 1868

VI. (Slide #7) Pray Fervently; Rely Upon God!

A. Pray Fervently!

1. Eph. 6:18 “praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.”
2. Lk. 11:4 “And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.”

B. Rely Upon God!

1. Think about the song: “I Need Thee Every Hour”.

2. **Verse 2**

“I need Thee ev’ry hour: Stay Thou near by;
Temptations lose their pow’r When Thou art nigh”

3. **Refrain:**

“I need Thee, O I need Thee;
Ev’ry hour I need Thee!
bless me now, my Savior;
I come to Thee!”

VII.(Slide #8) Try To Contemplate The Consequences Of “Giving In.”

A. Sin!

1. Js. 1:15 “Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”
2. It leads to violating God’s Will!

B. Guilt.

C. Separation from God.

D. Callousness -- Continuing In Sin Leads Us To Callousness And Hardness Of Heart; It Also Separates Us From God.

E. Eternal consequences.

VIII.(Slide #9) Develop Overcomer Attitudes!

A. Never Be Naïve!

1. Never decide that what happened to others cannot happen to you!
2. Realize how dangerous temptation and sin really are!
3. You will NEVER triumph over temptation pretending that it doesn't exist!

B. NEVER Get Arrogant!

1. I Cor. 10:12 "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall."
2. Realize you CAN be overcome by temptation; you CAN sin!

C. Think About What Is Happening!

1. Be aware that you ARE being tempted.
2. This will keep you from being blindly overcome.
 - a. Being aware and being vigilant will keep us from being caught "off guard."
 - b. Sadly, we are often "caught off guard."
3. "Am I being tempted?"

D. Realize What Temptation Really Is!

1. It is the lure!
2. It has a hook in it that will ensnare you!
3. It only portrays the sin as something alluring, inviting, and good.
4. If you give in, you may be "hooked" or stuck!
 - a. A big strong hawk saw meat on an iceberg. The ice was going down the river toward a large falls. The hawk swept down to get the meat. He stayed on the ice so long that when he flapped his wings, he could not get off!
 - b. Just as HE was stuck, we can be stuck if we give in to temptation!

E. Remember Who You Are!

1. A “Son of God!”
2. Honor your Father; refuse to dishonor yourself, your Father, and your influence!

F. Build A STRONG Faith!

1. I Jn. 5:4 “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.”
2. I Jn. 4:4 “You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”
3. It is CRITICAL to build a strong faith and to continue to feed it BEFORE YOU GET TO THE TEMPTATION!

G. When You Waver, Go To The House Of God! Ps. 73

1. The Psalmist nearly gave in to temptation!
2. Ps. 73:2,3 “But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled; My steps had nearly slipped. ³For I *was* envious of the boastful, When I saw the prosperity of the wicked.”
3. He convinced himself that the wicked did not face consequences for their sin; they seemed to prosper even though they sinned.
4. What SHOOK him? What WOKE HIM UP? “Until I went into the sanctuary of God; *Then* I understood their end.” Ps. 73:17

Conclusion:

- A. Yes, Temptation IS Real!
- B. Have A Super-Determined Heart -- Let This Mantra Be Your Motto: “I Shall Not Be Moved!”