

SERMON NOTES

Title: Temptation: Victor or Victim?

Text: Luke 4:1-13

Topic: Temptation

Teacher: Pastor Barry

Time: 4/12/26. File Under: Doctrinal



We are **not helpless** when it comes to temptation (I Cor.10:13)

Temptation is the act of **enticement** to do wrong, by the promise of **pleasure or gain**.

We are motivated by two main drives...1. the pursuit of **pleasure**. 2. The avoidance of pain.

The problem: Satan tempts us to meet those needs and desires in ways that are **contrary to God's will**.

So how do we over-come temptation.?

RECOGNIZE THAT TEMPTATION IS NOT A SIN.

UNDERSTAND SATAN'S M.O.

He strikes where we are most **vulnerable**.

He plants a doubt that God **is good**.

FOLLOW JESUS EXAMPLE.

1. Resist temptation when **it first presents itself**.

"But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death." (James 1:14-15).

2. Don't rely on **your own strength**.

3. Remove yourself **from the temptation**.

When temptation comes knocking at your door, **send Jesus to answer it**.

4. **Memorize** the Word of God.

*"This book will keep you **from sin** or **sin** will keep you from this book"* D.L. Moody

Its not **"if** you are tempted" it's **"when** you are tempted"

Temptation will come. When you flee temptation. Don't **leave a forwarding address**.

Digging Deeper: Under what circumstances was Jesus tempted; after a spiritual high? At a weak moment? Apart from God? In each temptation, what was its appeal? Its price? How does Jesus resist them? How does Satan's use of Scripture differ from the way Jesus uses it?

For Further Reflection: If the devil had three shots at you, what three temptations would he use? What can help you resist these appeals to self-interest, power, and spiritual pride?