

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

Genesis 3 Lesson 19 The Nature of Temptation

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In this lesson we want to show four aspects of temptation.

1. Everything God made was good, nothing was sinful.
2. Who does the tempting?
3. The definition of temptation.
4. How to get victory in the time of temptation.

Our chapter teaches that the man and the woman did not purpose to sin against their Maker. Satan sought to tempt them to use something God had made in a way which God had forbidden. This is the basis of all temptation.

I. NOTHING GOD MADE IS SINFUL

A. God saw all that He made was good (Genesis 1:31) ... *And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.* Anything that Satan may tempt us with is something God made because God made it, it is good. The whole nature of temptation centers around Satan trying to get us to pervert or misuse that which God created and made. Every sin of immorality is simply a misuse of your body. Every sin of eating, drinking, chewing; smoking or injecting something that is damaging or harmful is nothing more than abusing or misusing something that God made.

B. Nothing is unclean of itself (Romans 14:14). *I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean.* Let us look at that tree in the garden. That tree of the knowledge of good and evil, God made it. He made it to bear fruit. The fruit that was born on the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was good. Genesis 2:9

What did Satan try and get Adam to do? Misuse what God had made. To use something God had made for a purpose other than that which God had made it. God made grapes, corn, barley, and grain. He did not make them so you could get drunk and sin against Him. God made the hemp plant, one of the finest sources of fiber for making a rope instead many use it for dope. There is nothing wrong with the hemp plant. There is something wrong with man.

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C. To the pure all things are pure (Titus 1:15). *Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.* The devil has used the TV and social media to lure thousands into sexual perversion and devil worship. Nowadays innocent words are made into a sexual innuendo. Comedians take the most innocent, clean, normal thing and make a dirty joke out of it. This is the depravity of man in full bloom. God made the human body – there is nothing wrong with what God made. But defiled and wicked men can make something dirty out of anything.

What is the nature of temptation? It is Satan trying to get you and I to violate the laws and principles of a holy God in His creation.

II. WHO DOES THE TEMPTING?

A. God is not the tempter (James 1:13). *Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:* God does not entice any one to do wrong. God does not allure or encourage anyone to violate His principles. If you are one of those who believe that if God did not stop you, it must be OK with Him. Then you are wrong. You can justify anything and everything, by putting the blame on God, but the fault lies with your lust (James 1:14).

B. Satan is the tempter (1 Thessalonians 3:5). *For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.* Matthew 4:3;

III. WHAT IS TEMPTATION?

A. Satan appeals to human lust (James 1:14). *But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.* Satan tempted Eve and Jesus the same way he tempts us in three areas of our life. (1 John 2:16)

1. Lust of the flesh – Genesis 3:6; Matthew 4:4
2. Lust of the eyes – Genesis 3:6; Matthew 4:9
3. Pride of Life – Genesis 3:6; Matthew 4:6

B. These lusts are common to all (1 Corinthians 10:13). *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.* Temptations are common.

It is not a sin to be tempted. We need to understand this or the devil will get an advantage over us. Jesus was tempted. It is a sin to **yield** to

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temptation. That is the terminology in Romans 6. Yielding to temptation. Romans 6:13-19. Let's look at this in a practical application: When you are getting on the freeway the sign says yield, you do not yield by coming to a stop. You yield by slowing down to consider the options. When do we pass from the realm of temptation to the realm of sin? Not when we commit the act; but when we slow down to consider the options. What got Eve into trouble? Not eating the fruit; but stopping under the tree to look at the fruit. When do you fall into sin? Every time the tempter has presented a temptation and we begin to maul the matter over in our mind. From that point, we are in trouble.

D. Conquest in Temptation – How do we get victory over temptation? Four verses, Learn them! Believe them! Practice them!

1. Trust God (2 Peter 2:9). *The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations...* Number one you must trust God. God is not far away, He has already told you what to do, read your answers in His word. How did Jesus get victory when He was tempted of the devil? He quoted the word of God. He stood on the word of God. He believed the word of God; the first thing you do is trust God.

2. Take the way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13-14). *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; Look at what God just said, do you understand, He is saying, that each time you are tempted you have the ability to resist. ...but will WITH the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.* There is going to be temptation, but God has given us a way of escape – the word of God.

Satan is allowed to present a temptation, an opportunity to sin, the Holy Spirit of God will instantly give the child of God the way out. He said, *with the temptation*. The temptation will come and at the same time the way out of that temptation will come also.

The devil knows where you are weak; he knows how to tempt you. If you are weak in the flesh, he will send someone to tempt your flesh, if you are weak in the eyes, he will send something to tantalize your eyes, if you have a need for power, he will find someone to enhance your lust. The Bible tells us 2 Corinthians 2:11b *for we are not ignorant of his devices*. God says, number one... trust God. Number two... take the way of escape immediately. Do not slow down to yield at the intersection.

3. Depend upon the word of God Psalm 119:11. *Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.* You realize there are times when

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the devil hits you so fast there is no time to look in your concordance for a verse to stop him. You need to learn this Bible for yourself be so thoroughly familiar with the word of God that you know the way of escape when you need it.

We trust God... take the way of escape... depend on the word of God.

4. Watch and Pray (Matthew 26:40-41). Three times Peter yielded to the temptation to deny the Lord AFTER he had three times yielded to the temptation to sleep when Jesus had instructed him to pray. *And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.* You can trust God. You can intend on doing right. You can learn the Bible. But if that key ingredient of prayer is lacking, you will still fall. That communion with God is the catalyst in ensuring that when you are tempted, you will be able to resist.

Three times Peter went to sleep when the Lord told him to watch and pray. Three times when he is tempted to deny the Lord, he denies the Lord. Three times he had to tell Jesus in front of the other disciples - Lord, I love you more than these. John 21:12-17 I love you more than I love my sins. Peter never thought he would fall, in fact he bragged to Jesus about how strong he was.. Luke 22:33. Peter learned the hard way... to take heed lest he fall. 1 Corinthians 10:12 Peter never knew how easy it is to fall into temptation, but he found out that night. Peter was most likely a praying man from that night on. The Bible says he went out and wept bitterly. He got in touch with God afterwards... when he should have been in touch with him beforehand, thank God he repented and prayed.



NOTE: It is not a sin to be tempted. Jesus was tempted. It is a sin to yield to temptation. At a busy intersection one does not yield by entering the wrong highway. One yields by slowing down to consider the options. Sin begins when you stop beneath the tree of knowledge to converse with the tempter rather than fleeing at his first suggestion.



NOTE: Temptation is that which puts us to the test. Trials are sent by God to do this. A test is never sent to injure. A weight is attached to a rope, not to break, but to prove it. Pressure is applied to a boiler, not to burst it, but to certify its power of resistance. When a sailor has to navigate his ship under a heavy gale or in a difficult channel; or when a general has to fight against a superior force on disadvantageous ground, skill and courage are not only tested, but improved. The test has brought experience, and by practice is every faculty perfected. Faith grows stronger by exercise.

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Name _____

All answers must have scripture back-up to receive full credit.

1. What are the three ways that Satan tempts us?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
2. Compare the above three ways Satan tempts us to how the devil tempted the Lord Jesus Christ?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
3. When temptation comes what are the four things we should do?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
4. What was Peter's downfall in the garden?
5. What is the difference between?
 - Testing
 - Temptation

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6. What are some of the devices the devil uses to lure Christians into his traps?

7. Define each word – using the Bible
 - Yield

 - Guile

 - Lust

 - Sin

 - Death

8. Explain Psalms 119:11?

9. Give us 2 verses in the Old Testament that carry the same thought as Psalms 119:11?
 - a.

 - b.

9. What verse in scripture will explain the contrast of James 1:13 and Genesis 22:1? Hint: the verse is in Hebrews.

10. The Bible says that the things God made were very good, what makes them bad?

11. If we live a holy righteous life, will we ever be tempted?

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12. What is an example of yielding?

- To good
- To evil

True/False

- Jesus was tempted in all points, like as we.
- We can justify any sin, by putting the blame of God.
- We get into trouble when we stop and consider the temptation.
- We cannot bind the devil in preventing us from being tempted.



Memory verses, write these out on the back of this page. (must be in KJV)
Psalms 119:11; Romans 6:13; Psalms 37:31

Any questions?