

Temptation to Sin

James 1:13-15

-The Process of Temptation:

LUST → TEMPTATION → SIN → DEATH

- 1) Satan is involved in temptation (Matthew 4:3; 1 Thessalonians 3:5).
- 2) God doesn't tempt people to sin (James 1:13).
- 3) God limits the temptations of His people (1 Corinthians 10:13).

-Satan uses various strategies to ensnare people in sin (2 Corinthians 2:11).

Strategy #1: Satan aims to strengthen and nourish the love of sin in the heart.

-If he can change the way we think about sin, and the way we feel about sin, then he can induce us to consent to sin (Genesis 3:1-7).

- The Power of Illusion (Genesis 3:4, 5)
- The Promise of Gratification (Genesis 3:4, 5)
- The Portrayal of Sin as Virtue (Genesis 3:6)

Counsels

- 1) Stay as far away from the sin as you possibly can (Romans 13:13, 14).
- 2) Remember that the sweetness of sin is bitter and short-lived in the last analysis (Proverbs 9:14-18; Job 20:12-14; Hebrews 12:11).
- 3) Remember that sin will produce the saddest and most harmful losses a person can know (Matthew 16:26).
- 4) Let God's love for you in Christ kill your love of sin.