



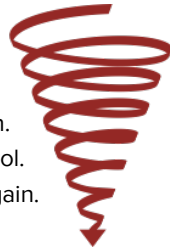
Pastor-Teacher | Chris Regas | 8.20.2023

Truths When Tempted

Lesson 2

The Downward Spiral of a Habitual Sin

Enjoy a forbidden pleasure.
Feel guilty.
Determine to never do it again.
Take pride in brief moments of self-control.
Then fail once again.



Sink into the despair of repeated defeat.

What is your habitual sin(s)?

Check where you are on the spiral.

How Should Christians Respond?

In Christ begin to **KILL** our sinful habits and **REPLACE** them with godly habits!

"Be killing sin, or sin will be killing you." – John Owen

Truths When Tempted

1. God Is Good So **TRUST** Him. *Genesis 3:1-7*

Tempted to Distrust God's Goodness

- **QUESTIONING** the goodness of *God's Word*. (3:1)

*Tempted to **doubt** what God **has** said and **defend** what God has **not** said.*

- **DOUBTING** the goodness of *God's will*. (3:4-5)
- **RESENTING** the goodness of *God's ways*. (3:4-5)

Three Results of Doubting God's Goodness

- You will **FEAR** repentance and obedience.
- You will **RESIST** repentance and obedience.
- You will **CHOOSE** to keep on sinning instead of repenting and obeying. *Proverbs 16:25; 3:7*

Two Results of Trusting God's Goodness

- You will continue to **SURRENDER** your entire life to Him. *Romans 12:1-2.*
- You will continue to **THIRST** for change.

2. You're Not Good So **TAKE** Responsibility. *Genesis 3:8-13*

- In our flesh we **BLAME OTHERS** for our sinful habits.

WHO did Adam blame for his sinful choice?

WHO did Eve blame for her sinful choice?

WHO did God say was responsible for the sin that took place?

*Sin is not caused by our circumstances but by our **RESPONSE** to circumstances. *James 1:13**

- How do I take responsibility for my sinful habit? *1 John 1:9*



3. Deliverance Is Possible So **TURN** to Christ.

Deliverance Is Possible. *1 Corinthians 10:13*

- No one can plead their case is **UNIQUE**.
- No Christian can claim they **CANNOT** resist temptation or stop sinning.
- No one can say that there is **NO** way out of their stubborn habit.

The Deliverer Was Promised and Is Now Provided in the Person and Power of Jesus Christ!

Before the Fall: *The triune God walked in fellowship with them. Genesis 1– 2*

- Their Creator God (Elohim) created each in His image. (Genesis 1 = He was large and in charge = Transcendence)
- Their Covenant God (Yahweh) cared for them deeply. (Genesis 2 = He was near to hear = Immanence!)
- Their Creation Order was complementary and “very good.” (Gen 2 = Man as Effective Head/Authority & Woman as Essential Helper/Ally.)

After the Fall: *The triune God came down to seek and to save His fallen Image Bearers! Genesis 3:8-24*

- A precious covering for their shame. (3:21; 1 Peter 1:19)
- A picture of blood atonement for their guilt. (3:21; Hebrews 9:22)
- A promised Son to kill the Serpent and their sin. (3:15)
- A progressive plan for future and final deliverance. (3:22-24)
- A partnership of complementarity restored in Christ to counter the curse. (1 Corinthians 11:3; cf. Genesis 3:16)

Our Triune God Much Experience in Delivering His People from Temptation and Sinful Habits.

“the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment,”
2 Peter 2:9