

Temptations of the Digital Age (Pt. 2)

Selected Scripture

I. The Principal Temptation—Substituting the Trivial for the Essential

A. Substituting Personal Opinion for Biblical Truth

1. Embracing the mindset of our age as equal to the Word of God (Eph. 2:2; Rom. 12:2; 1 John 2:15-17)
2. Promoting your own views as equal to the Word of God (1 Cor. 4:6; Mark 7:6-13; Rom. 14)

B. Substituting Worthless Distractions for Biblical Priorities

1. Scripture Meditation (Ps. 1:1-3)
2. Prayer & Praise (Ps. 35:28; 119:164; 1 Th. 5:17)

C. Substituting Virtual Relationships for Biblical Relationships

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- I. The Principal Temptation—Substituting the Trivial for the Essential
- II. The Internal Temptations—Substituting Powerful Sins for a Pure Heart
 - A. Pride, self-love, and self-promotion

What does the Bible say about *pride*?

1. Pride was the first sin in the universe, conceived in the heart of Satan (Ezek. 28:17).
2. Pride is the greatest and most defining sin of humanity (Is. 2:10-12, 17).
3. God hates pride (Pr. 16:5).
4. Believers must hate pride and pursue humility (Pr. 8:13; Col. 3:12).

How can we put off pride and put on humility?

1. Don't measure yourself favorably against others (2 Cor. 10:12, 18).
2. Don't subtly or overtly promote or praise yourself (Pr. 27:2; 25:27).
3. Remind yourself you have nothing you haven't received (1 Cor. 4:7).
4. Regard others as more important than yourself (Phil. 2:3).
5. Constantly look for ways put the needs and interests of others before your own (Phil. 2:4).
6. Submit to human authorities (1 Pet. 5:5a).
7. Serve the menial needs of others (1 Pet. 5:5b).
8. Submit to God's providence (1 Pet. 5:6-7).

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- I. The Principal Temptation—Substituting the Trivial for the Essential
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 - A. Pride, self-love, and self-promotion
 - B. Covetousness

What does the Bible say about *covetousness*?

1. It's forbidden in the 10th Commandment (Ex. 20:17).
2. It characterizes unbelievers (1 Cor. 6:10).
3. It's unacceptable for believers (Acts 20:33; Rom. 13:9; 1 Cor. 5:10-11).
4. It must be replaced with contentment and thankfulness (1 Tim. 6:8; Heb. 13:5; 1 Th. 5:18).

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I. The Principal Temptation—Substituting the Trivial for the Essential

II. The Internal Temptations—Substituting Powerful Sins for a Pure Heart

A. Pride, self-love, and self-promotion

B. Covetousness

C. Envy

- Pr. 23:17; Gal. 5:21-22, 26; Mk. 7:21-22; Titus 3:3; 1 Pet. 2:1

D. Anger & hatred

- Pr. 29:22; 30:33; Mt. 5:21-22; Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 4:31; Col. 3:8; Titus 3:1-3