

# Temptations of the Digital Age (Pt. 3)

## *Selected Scripture*

- I. The Principal Temptation—Substituting the Trivial for the Essential
- II. The Internal Temptations—Substituting Powerful Sins for a Pure Heart
- III. The Sexual Temptations—Substituting Momentary Gratification for God-given Pleasure
  - A. Three Primary Expressions
    - Pornography
    - Social-Media Adultery
    - Entertainment-induced Lust (music, video games, shows, & movies)
  - B. The Biblical Perspective (Mt. 5:27-30; Eph. 5:3-8)

# How to battle sexual temptation...

1. Make sure you have been transformed by the Spirit (Rom. 6:6-7, 12-14, 17-18, 22).
2. Cultivate a spirit of constant dependence on Christ (Mark 14:38; John 15:5).
3. Take practical steps to cut lust out of your life (Matt. 5:29-30).
4. Arm yourself with the sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17).

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### IV. The Relational Temptations—Substituting Sinful Responses for Biblical Love

A. Misusing Speech

B. Perverting Justice

- Determining guilt without biblical evidence.

# Why is it wrong to determine guilt without biblical evidence?

- It violates the law of love.
- It violates the nature of God.
- It violates the biblical standards of justice.
  1. There must be sufficient evidence (Dt. 19:15).
  2. There must be a judicial process (Dt. 16:18-20).
  3. There must be a legal decision by the judge God appointed (Dt. 17:8-13).

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### IV. The Relational Temptations—Substituting Sinful Responses for Biblical Love

A. Misusing Speech

B. Perverting Justice

- Determining guilt without biblical evidence
- Determining guilt without biblical authority

C. Disrespecting Authority

D. Meddling in Others' Business

# How can we manage our digital lives?

## 1. Read:

- *The Next Story* (Tim Challies)
- *12 Ways Your Phone Is Changing You* (Tony Reinke)

## 2. Practice regular self-examination of your use of technology.

- Does it move me toward God or away from Him?
- Does it edify me and others or does it build nothing of lasting value?
- Does it expose my freedom in Christ or my bondage to something else?

## 3. Remind yourself daily that you and your digital devices belong to Jesus Christ.