

wvc "Overcoming Temptation" part 3 Sept 27, 2020

I. **James 1:12-17**

- **Is God for me or against me?**
- **Some logical questions to ask:**
 - *If God is testing me, then why would I go to Him to deliver me? (Jesus spoke to the Winds instead of accepting them as God's way of testing Him! – Have we become So lethargic in our faith, that we no longer can discern between good and evil?)*
 - *If sickness is God's way of testing His people, then why do we seek Him for Healing?*
 - *Is it possible to trust someone who inflicts (allows) pain upon you?*

- **God loves me!!!! There is no fear in love and perfect love casts out all fear. Do you know what kind of love this really is?**

- **God's love is so great that He reached down in all of your chaos, and loved you even when you were considered un-lovable; this is why we love Him in return....because He first loved us!**

II. **The Undeniable Truth**

- **Psalm 103:1-5** "...forget not all His benefits (rewards)." (It is IMPOSSIBLE to have faith in God when you are afraid of Him!)
- **Matthew 7:7-11** "...how much MORE shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him."

- **SETTLE IT FOREVER – God is good all the time and He only does good things!**

III. Areas of temptation that all believers must be alert to

1. **John 2:16** – Lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, pride of life
2. 3 gotchas – Pride, Money, Sex (look at people in ministry and people in power)
3. Other areas of temptations that are at the top of the list:
 - * **Anxiety or Worry** – 60% of Americans bow to this temptation daily
 - * **Over-eating** – 55% are often or sometimes overwhelmed by the temptation to Eat too much
 - * **Overuse of electronics & social media** – 44% admit they fall to the temptation Of overusing Facebook, television, and video games.
 - * **Addictions** (Alcohol, Nicotine, Pornography)

IV. How Do I Overcome?

1. The First thing to Know is that you were created to dominate rather than to be dominated (**Genesis 4:5-7**)

- Feelings are a major area of weakness that Satan preys upon (This is why we Are commanded to “*be angry and sin not*”, and to “*put on the garment of Praise for the spirit of heaviness...*”)

- Notice: all 3 areas of temptations are connected to what you See

- **Remember, Satan is looking for that weak moment to try to Draw You Away, Entice You, Bring Conception to Sin that Causes Separation from the Presence of God!**

2. The Second thing to Know is that God always makes a way (**I Cor. 10:13**) (RUN & Take your clothes with you!)

3. The Third and Final thing: Speak The Word (It Is Written)

* Satan tempts you in the area of your thoughts; he does not have the power to “Make” you do anything!

* How do you cast those thoughts down? Answer: **Use something more powerful (Words)**