BIBLICAL COUNSELING

TEMPTATION AND REPENTANCE

TEMPTATION AND THE BELIEVER

Understanding the progression towards sin in the life of the Christian.

James 1:13–15

¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

¹⁵ Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

TEMPTATION AND THE BELIEVER

From Temptation to Sin – Important Principles

There is a difference between trials and temptations

God does NOT tempt anyone

Temptation begins with our OWN lust

Temptation is the pathway to sin

Sin leads to death

We must have confidence that there is a way of escape (1 Cor 10:13)

Understand that most people don't want God's way of escape.

The Israelites all benefited from:

The Presence of God

The Protection of God

The Provision of God

Jesus Christ

The Israelites were examples in evil in:

Idolatry

Immorality

Trying the Lord

Grumbling

A Warning Against Spiritual Pride

1 Corinthians 10:12 ¹² Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

The Promise

1 Corinthians 10:13 ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

The Promise

Temptation is common to man

God is faithful

God will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able.

God will provide a way of escape

You will be able to endure it

Paul's heartache when addressing sin:

2 Corinthians 7:8 ⁸ For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it—for I see that that letter caused you sorrow,

though only for a while—

Paul's delight in the Corinthian response:

2 Corinthians 7:9

⁹ I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

Paul's delight in the Corinthian response:

Grief that comes from God is characterized by **repentance**, i.e., remorse caused by having lost God's approval and the consequent resolve to reverse one's conduct and live for God (5:6–10, 15). **worldly grief**. Grief that comes from the world, i.e., a remorse brought about by losing the world's approval, leads to a resolve to regain that approval, and this **produces death**, or divine judgment. ESV Study Bible

Sorrow contrasted:

2 Corinthians 7:10 ¹⁰ For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

Sorrow contrasted:

Human sorrow is unsanctified remorse and has no redemptive capability. It is nothing more than the wounded pride of getting caught in a sin and having one's lusts go unfulfilled. That kind of sorrow leads only to guilt, shame, despair, depression, self-pity, and hopelessness. MacArthur

Repentance Demonstrated

2 Corinthians 7:11

¹¹ For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.

Repentance

Rom 2:4

4 Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

2 Tim 2:24-26
24 The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged,
25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,
26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

God's Desire When We Sin:

Psalm 51:17

¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.