

**The Book of 1 Corinthians**  
**1 Corinthians 10:11-13**

**Session 40: Notetaker**

CHANNELS OF TEMPTATION			
	Genesis 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food	Genesis 3:6 ...and it was pleasant to the eyes	Genesis 3:6 A tree to be desired to make one wise
	Genesis 3:1 ...hath God said ye shall eat of every tree of the garden	Genesis 3:4 Ye shall not surely die	Genesis 3:5 ...ye shall be as gods
Questions			
Destroys			
	Man does not live by bread alone...but by every word...of God	Deuteronomy 6:16 Ye shall not tempt the Lord your God	Deuteronomy 6:13 ...fear the Lord thy God and fear Him

## **The Book of 1 Corinthians**

### **1 Corinthians 10:11-13**

#### **Session 40: Overcoming Temptation**

1 Corinthians 10:11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

There is an “end” in relation to God’s program with Israel, and there is an “end” in relation to the DoGG. That is the one Paul is referring to, so he says “ends.”

1 Corinthians 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

Now remember our context. Overall context is that instead of using their liberty to serve one another in love, the Corinthians were using their liberty for their own personal gratification.

In the more immediate context at the end of chapter 9, Paul is talking about limiting his liberty as he runs the race to win the prize. Those who do so will receive an incorruptible crown at the judgment seat of Christ (JSoC). It is in view of this eternal reward that Paul writes in vs. 12 to “take heed lest [they] fall” or fail to receive that reward.

Of the whole generation that came out of Egypt and crossed the Red Sea, we know of two, (Joshua and Caleb) who made it into the Promised Land – the reward for believing. The rest of them died off before they entered the land because of unbelief.

Consider This.....

Some polls say that there are about 60 million Christians in the U.S., and if that is so, and the same ratio holds true as it did for Israel; that would mean that only about 200 believers from the U. S. would actually receive rewards at the judgment seat of Christ. Just something to think about.

1 Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*.

I want to talk to you about temptation and being able to identify the “way of escape.” Firstly, let’s talk about temptation. This is what Paul is talking about in vs. 13.

Even though we are secure in Christ and we know about the victory over the powers of darkness by His death, burial and resurrection, we are still vulnerable to Satan’s accusations, temptation and deceptions. Now that we are justified saints, we can never be owned by the Adversary, but it is possible for some saved people to be controlled by him and it is even probable that many believers are influenced by him. It is the “outer circle” of the target that we find most of his accusations, temptations and deceptions.

If we are deceived and believe his lies, he can gain some measure of control over us. When you are tempted, see those temptations, not as a promise of something you want, but as Satan’s disguised means of gaining some foothold in your mind, and then in your soul.

Have you ever noticed that what tempts you may not be so tempting to another person? Temptations from without lack power unless there is a corresponding desire within. This explains Jesus’ statement in John 14:30.

John 14:30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for **the prince of this world** cometh, and **hath nothing in me**.

In other words, there was no corresponding desire in Jesus to which Satan could hook his temptations.

Most believers will not be tempted to commit overt sins because Satan is too subtle for that. He knows we would recognize the flagrant wrong and we would be unlikely to act on them. That is not to say that such thoughts might not pop in our minds; but when they do, those who are uninformed will wonder what is wrong with them for thinking such things. Usually, the tactic is to take a good thing and blow it beyond its proper proportion – like our liberty in Christ.

And now let's talk about the way of escape.

The first thing to understand is that if you are dealing with an area in which you have repeated failures, then you need to go back to *Sonship Transformation* to pull down any stronghold, identify the lie that Satan is telling you, counter that lie with the truth from God's word, resist the temptation and then stand firm in the victory that Christ Himself has provided for you.

Now, I want to talk about that word "resist" for a moment. I am going to share with you something that I developed in my own life by using Philippians 4:8. I know we are not yet in Philippians as an assembly, but I think it might be helpful for me to show you this just the same.

To begin, let's get the context and then we will read the verse. In the context, Paul is talking about not being anxious or "full of care" by making our requests known to God. By making our requests known, the peace of God can then keep our hearts and minds – which means to guard them. Then we come to vs. 8.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things.

So take these one at a time and let's relegate it to some temptation. Let's say someone is tempted with pornography. What is the true thing I should be thinking about?

- I am dead to sin and alive unto God.

Think about this, memorize this and meditate on this truth about your new identity in your sanctification.

What are the honest things I should be thinking?

- I can overcome this sin.
- I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me, and that includes this sin.
- I am no longer under the dominion of sin; I am free from pornography and its power over me. (This will be true if you have dealt with it in *Transformation*.)

What is the just thing I should think about? When I think of justice I think of what God has done to make this new identity true.

- Christ died for my sins.

In His death, burial and resurrection Christ has done everything I need in order to have victory over this temptation and sin.

What is the pure thing I should be thinking?

- I have been made the righteousness of God in Christ and the holiness of God in Christ.

For me to give in to this temptation is not who I have been made to be. This is Satan's trick to gain a foothold in me.

What is the lovely thing I should be thinking?

- The life of Christ can be lived in me moment by moment.

This is the attractive (lovely) thing to think on; that when Satan knocks on your door with a temptation, send Jesus to answer the door. What could be more lovely than the life of Christ being lived in us to deny temptations?

And what is the good report I should be thinking?

Let me ask you, when will we give a report? At the JSoC. And what would be a good report at that time?

- I will not give in to temptation.
- I admit that I have failed in the past, but I am now living out of the victory that Christ has provided for me.
- My heavenly Father has given me free will and my love for Him is greater than the temptations before me; I want to be trusted by my Father that I will do His will.

The answer is that we have judged ourselves so we do not have to be judged at that event of the judgment seat. The power of God's grace is resident in His word to deliver us from sin.

So, to wind this up let's create a scenario. A man loves his wife but he has never gotten victory over the use of pornography. He has this secret addiction that not even his wife knows about. One day at work he gets a call from his wife to pick up a grocery item on his way home. Satan immediately plants a thought in his head; don't pick it up at the regular grocery store, but stop by that little out of the way convenience store where they sell men's magazines. He knows that if he goes to the regular grocery store, he will have no such opportunity. And now the battle rages.

If the man is still deciding when he has already driven to the convenience store, his way of escape is diminishing. His way of escape was, at the latest, when he got into his car. He should have immediately driven to the regular store. But when he failed to do that, but drove instead toward the convenience store, his chances of overcoming the temptation is small. If he pulls up and gets out, the chances are almost zero that he will overcome the temptation.

And by the way, if he does fail and buy the magazine, as soon as he walks out of the store, Satan changes from tempter to accuser and now starts the guilt trip. Satan loves to accuse us so he can convince us that we really are not free in Christ.

Here is my point; the way of escape is always early in the temptation. The earlier you quit debating and make a sonship decision based on the doctrine, the greater your way of escape.

But understand this process works with any situation. Say for example, a wife who has decided she is going to stop nagging her husband and constantly complaining. She needs to take Philippians 4:8 and ask herself what things she should be thinking in order to renew her mind.

Once we have taken back ourselves from the influence of the Adversary, and overcome his temptation, stand fast in the victory that Christ won.

The best way Satan can trap believers by his temptations is for the believer to have first made room for him. And how do we make room for the devil? According to 2 Corinthians 4, when we harden our hearts, or choose not to believe the truth, we are making room for Satan.

I say this to get us to understand that the battle isn't just happening when the temptation rises up; the groundwork for this has already been laid.

The last thing I want to talk about is the area of deception. We talked already about temptation and accusations, now I want to talk about deception. People who are self-deceived are the hardest to help. They do not believe they are deceived and therefore they don't have a problem.

We are self-deceived when we believe we are someone other than who we really are. This is why our identity in Christ is so important.

There are many evidences of self-deception, but perhaps one of the greatest is to think we will face no consequences for our behavior. And this thought will be our springboard for vs. 14 in our next session.