

# Yield Not to Temptation

## Introduction

**1. Satan has so many avenues through which to tempt us.**

**A. Paul wrote to the church at Corinth about temptation.**

2 Corinthians 2:11 lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

**2. God has provided a shield of faith so we can deflect the fiery arrows of the Devil.**

Ephesians 6:16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

## Micaiah Did Not Yield

### 1 Kings 22:1-28

- Jehoshaphat, King of Judah, and Ahab, King of Israel, planned to go to war against Syria.
- They said it had been three years without war with Syria.
- Their thinking was "Ramoth-Gilead belongs to us and we are sitting here doing nothing about it, so let us take it out of the hand of the King of Syria.
- Ahab said *"will you go into battle with me Jehoshaphat?"*
- Jehoshaphat's answer was *"I am as you are, my people as your people."*
- But Jehoshaphat also said, *"please inquire for the word of the Lord."*

- Ahab gathers about 400 men and asked them if they should go into battle against Syria.
- They all said to go and the Lord would help them be victorious.
- Jehoshaphat was not convinced.
- He wanted to know if there was a prophet of God that they might inquire of.
- Ahab said there was one named Micaiah, but that he hated him. He never foretells anything good concerning him.
- Jehoshaphat wanted to ask anyway.
- They sent for Micaiah. He told him that all of Ahab's prophets agreed that Ahab would have victory. He then tempted Micaiah to sin, saying "please let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak encouragement."
- HERE IS THE TEMPTATION! Agree – you will find favor with the kings.
  - You will be popular with the other prophets. Do not be negative.
- Micaiah did NOT take the bait. He said; *"whatever the Lord says to me, that I will speak."*
- When Micaiah came into the presence of the two kings he replied; "Go and prosper, for the LORD will deliver it into the hand of the king!"
  - He must have said it in sarcasm, because of the way Ahab answered in verse 16; *"How many times shall I make you swear that you tell me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?"*

- Micaiah told him that he saw Israel scattered as sheep on the mountain without a shepherd.
- In the end, Ahab was killed as God had spoken.
- What a temptation for Micaiah! He could have saved all of that if he had given in to the temptation, but, of course, he would then have **had to face God!**

## **Satan Tempts Us**

- 1. The appealing bait is dangled before us. It is so tempting**
  - A. Satan tempted Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit in Genesis 3**
    - 1) She was tempted three ways.**
      - a) Eve was tempted and sinned.**
  - B. Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness in Matthew 4.**
    - 1) Jesus was tempted the same three ways.**
      - a) Jesus was tempted, yet did NOT sin.**
  - C. Satan tempted both of them.**
    - 1) Good for food      **Lust of the flesh****
    - 2) Delight to the eyes      **Lust of the eyes****
    - 3) Make one wise      **Pride of life****

**2. Satan uses other ways to tempt us. He uses people and things.  
God does not tempt us to do evil.**

**A. Temptation to sin is not from God.**

**James 1:13**

**B. Temptation is from Satan**

1 Corinthians 7:5 Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so **that Satan does not tempt you** because of your lack of self-control.

Matthew 4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be **tempted by the devil.**

1 Thessalonians 3:5 For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means **the tempter had tempted you,** and our labor might be in vain.

**C. Satan uses people to tempt us to sin.**

Proverbs 1:10 My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent.

Proverbs 4:14-15 Do not enter the path of the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil. Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn away from it and pass on.

**Proverbs 6:24-29**

**D. Our lust tempts us.**

**James 1:14-15**

Romans 6:12-13 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, **that you should obey it in its lusts.** And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

## **We Can Overcome Temptation**

### **1. We need to pray to overcome temptation.**

Matthew 26:41 Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Matthew 6:13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

### **2. God's Word will help us overcome!**

Psalms 119:11 Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.

#### **A. Jesus used it against the Devil**

**Matthew 4:1-11**

### **3. God's Word shows us that we can overcome!**

**1 Corinthians 10:12-13**

### **4. Jesus knows about temptation and will help us.**

2 Peter 2:9 then the Lord **knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations** and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,

Hebrews 2:18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able **to aid those who are tempted.**

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points **tempted as we are**, yet without sin.

## Conclusion

### 1. Satan is continually after us to sin.

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

### 2. We must NOT yield to temptation.

#### A. If we do, we can be forgiven while we still have life on earth.

1 John 2:1-2 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. **And if anyone sins**, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

1 John 1:9 **If we confess our sins**, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

