

**How to Resist Temptations, Pt. 2**  
**2 Samuel 11:1-5; James 4:6-10, 2026-01-25A, #12**  
**(Series on Goals for 2025)**

**Introduction:** Today I want to return to our study on how to resist temptations. In a previous study in 1 Corinthians 10:12-13, we saw that trials and temptations are continuous, common, controlled, and conquerable. We also saw in a previous study in 2 Samuel 11 David's failure to resist temptation.

Temptation is enticement to sin. Temptation is not sin. Jesus was tempted (Matthew 4:1-10). Yielding to temptation is sin. David yielded to temptation because he did a lot of things that were incorrect. Today we will continue to look at some of the correct ways to resist temptations.

**I. Recognize Your Enemies.**

**A. All believers in Jesus Christ have three enemies:**

- 1. The world (James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17),**
- 2. The flesh (Galatians 5:16-17), and**
- 3. The Devil (1 Peter 5:8; cf. Ephesians 6:12).**

**B. Satan comes in disguise (Genesis 3; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4; 11:13-15)...**

**II. Resist Temptations Immediately.**

**A. Temptation has to be resisted within seconds not minutes.**

**B. David did not resist immediately (2 Samuel 11:2).**

**C. Jesus, Joseph, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego resisted temptation immediately (Genesis 39:7-12; Daniel 3:13-18; Matthew 4:1-10).**

**D. You can look at some things too long (cf. Job 31:1; Psalm 101:3; 119:37). You can linger in some places too long (Psalm 1:1). You can listen to some things too long.**

**E. Stay away from the edge, and it is impossible to fall off the cliff.**

- 1. When you fall off the cliff, it is impossible to slow your roll – there is a point of no return.**
- 2. David fell off the cliff because he looked and lingered too long.**

**F. Observe the results of David's fall off the cliff:**

- 1. David inquired about the woman (2 Samuel 11:3a).**
- 2. Bathsheba was the daughter of Eliam (2 Samuel 11:3b).**
  - a. Eliam was the son of Ahithophel (2 Samuel 23:34).**
  - b. Ahithophel was the grandfather of Bathsheba.**
  - c. Ahithophel was David's counselor.**
  - d. Ahithophel turned against David because of what David did to his granddaughter (2 Samuel 15:12, 31; 17:1-23).**
- 3. "The wife of Uriah the Hittite" (2 Samuel 11:3c).**
  - a. Uriah is listed with the 37 mighty men of David (2 Samuel 23:8-39).**
  - b. Uriah was loyal to the Army of Israel (2 Samuel 11:6-11).**
  - c. Uriah would give his life to save David's life.**
- 4. "The wife of Uriah the Hittite" (2 Samuel 11:3c, 4).**
  - a. "Wife" should have stopped David, but he looked too long.**
  - b. David had at least six wives to whom he could have turned, but he looked too long (2 Samuel 3:2-5).**
  - c. David also had concubines (2 Samuel 5:13; 16:22).**
  - d. At least, four of the 10 Commandments were disobeyed because David looked too long:**

- 1) **The 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment:** “You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife...” (Exodus 20:17; cf. 2 Samuel 11:3).
- 2) **The 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment:** “You shall not commit adultery” (Exodus 20:14; cf. 2 Samuel 11:4).
- 3) **The 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment:** “You shall not steal” (Exodus 20:15; cf. 2 Samuel 12:1-8, 10b).
- 4) **The 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment:** “You shall not kill or murder” (Exodus 20:13; cf. 2 Samuel 12:9).

### **III. Recite Scriptures in Relation to the Temptation.**

- A. According to James 4:7 NKJV, “Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”**
- B. Some of the Scriptures that will help us to resist: Proverbs 15:3; 21:1; Jeremiah 23:24; Hebrews 4:13; Psalm 139:1-12; Romans 8:28; 12:19; Galatians 6:7; Philippians 4:8).**
- C. David did not recite Scriptures.**
  1. David wrote at least 75 of the 150 Psalms that we have today.
  2. David wrote Psalm 139:1-12.
- D. What causes the devil to flee is resistance to him.**
  1. Jesus recited Scriptures in relation to the three temptations of Satan (Matthew 4:1-10).
  2. Satan knows the Scriptures better than we do.
    - a. Satan quoted Psalm 91:11-12 in relation to the second temptation (Matthew 4:5-7).
    - b. Jesus said, “It is written again...” (Matthew 4:7).
    - c. Satan will say to us “Go ahead and sin because it is written 1 John 1:9.”
    - d. We must be able to say to Satan as Jesus did, “It is written again in Galatians 6:7, ‘You reap what you sow.’”
    - e. Other actions that will help us to resist Satan:
      - 1) Submit to God (James 4:7a).
      - 2) Draw near to God (James 4:8) – Hymn “I Need Thee Every Hour” #428.
      - 3) Humble yourself (James 4:6, 10).

### **IV. Remove Yourself from the Tempting Situation.**

- A. Run when it is necessary as Joseph did (Genesis 39:12).**
- B. David did not remove himself from the tempting situation – he looked and lingered too long.**
- C. Paul said: “Flee from idolatry” (1 Corinthians 10:14). “Flee fornication” (1 Corinthians 6:18). “Flee also youthful lust” (2 Timothy 2:22).**
- D. In a previous study, we learn that God controls temptations and that temptations are conquerable (1 Corinthians 10:13) – Look for the way of escape.**
  1. God knows how much we can bear.
  2. God provides a way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13; 2 Peter 2:9).

### **V. Remain Alert Because Satan Leaves for a Season (Luke 4:13; Ephesians 6:10-12).**

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