

How to Resist Temptations, Pt. 1
2 Samuel 11:1-27, 2025-10-26A, #11
(Series on Goals for 2025)

Introduction: Today I want to talk to you about how to resist temptations. In our last study in 1 Corinthians 10:12-13, we saw that trials and temptations are continuous, common, controlled, and conquerable.

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 look at some of the correct ways to resist temptations.

- I. Resist Temptations Immediately.**
 - A. Temptation has to be resisted within seconds not minutes.**
 - B. David did not resist immediately.**
 - 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 10th Commandment: “You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife...” (Exodus 20:17; 2 Samuel 11:3).**
 - 2) The 7th Commandment: “You shall not commit adultery” (Exodus 20:14; 2 Samuel 11:4).**
 - 3) The 8th Commandment: “You shall not steal” (Exodus 20:15; 2 Samuel 12:1-8, 10b).**
 - 4) The 6th Commandment: “You shall not kill or murder” (Exodus 20:13; 2 Samuel 12:9).**

II. 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; Jeremiah 23:24; Hebrews 4:13; Psalm 139:1-12; Romans 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.’”**

III. Remember That Sins Have Consequences:

- A. David confessed his sins, and he was forgiven; but there were consequences that followed David the rest of his life (cf. Psalm 32:1-5; 51:1-19; 2 Samuel 12:7-18).**
- B. We can be forgiven for our sins, but there are consequences that may follow us the rest of our lives (Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:9; Galatians 6:7).**
- C. Prayerfully and carefully choose your friends and acquaintances (Proverbs 13:20; 22:24-25; 1 Corinthians 15:33).**

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 our last study, we learn that God controls temptations and that temptations are conquerable (1 Corinthians 10:13).**
 - 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).

- A. David was not alert to Satan’s trap.**
- B. All believers have three enemies: (1) the world (1 John 2:15-17); (2) the flesh (Galatians 5:16-17); and (3) the devil (1 Peter 5:8).**

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