

Victory Over Sin and Hell

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.

1 Corinthians 10:13

The Devil will use temptation to draw you away from God and hinder your Christian life. The Devil tried to do this to our Lord in Matthew 4, but Jesus resisted the Devil. We can have the same victory over temptation and sin in our daily life. Turn to Psalm 119:11 and read the verse out loud. Jesus is the greatest example of this verse from the Psalms. When He was tempted by the Devil Jesus continually quoted Holy Scripture.

James 4:7 says, "Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." Again, Jesus is a prime example of this verse. When Jesus resisted the temptations of the Devil, he fled from Him and Jesus remained sinless. Being tempted with sin is not a sin, giving into the temptation of sin is. Jesus was tempted by sin and yet He was sinless. John 3:5 says, "Jesus answered, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.'" 2 Corinthians 5:21 continues, "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." 1 Peter 2:22 teaches that Christ did not sin, nor did any deceit come from the lips of Jesus.

Sin is like a disease which everyone suffers from. After death our soul will live on in Heaven or Hell, depending on if we have come to Christ for salvation. The Bible says that everyone has fallen short of God's perfection.

The Bible says sin has 5 main origins.

1. Satan, the devil
2. Man's heart
3. Lust of the flesh
4. Adam and Eve
5. Beginning of life (Birth)

We know stealing is wrong because we know deep within our heart that God is truth. John 17:17 says that God is truth. We know hate is wrong because we know that God is love, 1 John 4:8 declares this truth. We know to take God's name in vain is wrong because we know that God is holy.

God created us to be right with Him and to live a life that pleases Him. So, where did it all go wrong? What happened to God's creation? Where did all this sin come from? "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. 'These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man' declares Matthew 15:19-20. The Bible says that sin comes from within the human heart.

Jeremiah 17:9 teaches that the heart is deceitful, sick, and desperately immoral. No one can really understand how bad the heart of mankind really is. No one can truly understand the

depths that the heart will sink to. When you sin you lose the joy and peace of God. The Holy Spirit that dwells within you is quenched by sin. That holy fire that purifies is dampened by sinful acts. As a result your whole life begins to go downhill because the Holy Spirit cannot live with sin. The Holy Spirit is pure. 1 Corinthians 3:16 says, "Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?"

You can have the victory over sin, if God by His grace changes and purifies you into holiness. Only God can do this, you cannot do it alone.

In 1 Corinthians 10:13 the Bible teaches that there is no temptation nor hardship that God does not know Himself. When Jesus came to earth, He lived in the body of a man. He can identify with human suffering and temptation. No matter where the temptation comes from, God will give you the power to overcome it. Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit according to Galatians 5: 22-23. The Bible defines self-control as curbing the impulses of the flesh to be made more Christ like in heart and spirit. This can only be possible with the aid of the Spirit of God. Those who are not saved do not have the Spirit of God in them so they cannot exercise this unique brand of control, read 1 Corinthians 2:11-15.

Turn to James 1:13-15.

Who cannot be tempted with evil? _____

Does God tempt us to sin? _____

How are you tempted? _____

When lust has taken place in you what does it bring? _____

You cannot blame God for temptation because God is holy. He does not tempt people to do evil. He is pure and good. The Devil on the other hand is hateful, evil, and bad. The Devil does tempt people, but we cannot just blame the Devil every time we sin, we are to blame also. As we have read in James we are drawn away from righteousness when we follow our own lustful and sinful desires. When we make the choice to sin, we fall into Satan's trap. When we are tempted by evil, we have a choice to give in or to turn away. Asking God for deliverance from sin is the key to resisting the Devil.

We are now going to learn how we can have the victory over sin. Write out the verses by turning to each passage in your Bible.

John 16:13

1 John 4:4

1 John 5:4

1 Peter 5:8

Galatians 5:16

Hebrews 4:16

We have learnt from the Bible how to resist sin, but what do you do if you succumb to temptation and bring forth sin in your heart.

Firstly, we must recognise our sin before God and confess it to Him. Turn to 1 John 1:8-9 and fill in the blanks below.

If we say that we have no _____, we are _____ ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we _____ our _____, He is faithful and _____ to forgive us our sins and to _____ us from all _____.

Read out loud Proverbs 28:13, Psalm 51:3-4 and Psalm 44:5.

Although the sin of David did involve others David viewed his sins as against God. After you have confessed your sin you must be willing to have repentance in mind. We can have the victory over sin.

Write out the verses below.

2 Corinthians 2:14

2 Corinthians 5:17

1 John 3:9

Colossians 1:11

John 15:5

Can we have victory over sin? _____

Lesson Summary

The Holy Bible says that Satan's main goal is to completely destroy your Christian life, testimony and soul. Satan will do just that if you allow him to. Stay strong in the Lord Jesus because when Jesus is near no-one can do you any spiritual harm. Turn to Hebrews 13:6 in your Bible and underline that verse. You must place your trust completely in the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ had victory over sin and death, we can also have the same victory if we yield to the Saviour. John H. Sammis wrote "Trust and obey, For there's no other way, To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey." You can't live on feelings alone. Feelings will deceive you and lead you astray. Faith and trust placed in Christ will lead to a life of victory, for the victory is in Jesus Christ alone.

Remembrance verse

2 Thessalonians 3:3

But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

