

*No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will provide a way out so you can endure it. (1 Corinthians 10:13 NIV)*

Let's remind ourselves one more time; it is not a sin to be tempted or tested!!! No, Jesus was tempted; read Matthew, chapter 4 again. When tempted, speak boldly against it in the Name of Jesus. That's like a Spiritual signature on a spiritual check.

Who is the tempter? We all know it is Satan, but why??? Satan is the leader of many fallen angels. He wanted to be God, but a created spirit cannot destroy the Creator of everything, so to avenge God he elected to destroy God's chosen humanity. That's us folks, you and me!!!

Satan's job was easy; all he needed to accomplish our defeat was to introduce FEAR in place of agape LOVE. This type of love is an action verb based on serving, not just on emotional feelings. All sinful behavior has its roots in fear. Think about it; pride results from self worth challenging fear. Greed results from the fear of depravity. Lust results from being too wrapped up in selfish thinking. Depression is usually brought on from a fear of the future; on and on the temptations go.

Can you imagine life without the temptation to let fear inhibit our ability to choose? We could then, very bravely, apply our faith, our intellect and available resources along with the wisdom and counsel of our Lord to accomplish our visions and hope. So then, even when we fail, there would be no fear involved in our recovery.

Temptation will often follow after we've come down from a spiritual high. The devil is sly; he knows our times of vulnerability. We may become tempted to let our emotions become masters for a season. Always remember, as we've said before, emotions are wonderful servants; we wouldn't be human without them. However, they become very destructive when we allow them to have too much influence when making significant choices.

While our Lord never actually tempts us (*James 1:13*), He does lead us, at times, to places where we become vulnerable to the devil's temptations. Every time we're able to resist temptation we become stronger in our ability to follow biblical obedience. Read the biblical obedience articles on: [www.skipelmore.com](http://www.skipelmore.com)

The devil always tempts us in our weakest areas. Remember too, when we become strong in one area, he will search out another. He does not give up easily, so remember, we cast the deciding vote. Biblical obedience is on one side; the devil is on the other. We are in between. We vote the choice. None of us ever needs a test to know right from wrong, good from bad, constructive from destructive. We all know.

There is an age old question that's been around for years: "*What would Jesus do?*" We all inherently know the answer; live by it every day as though it were your last.

**SOME DAY IT WILL BE!!!**

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