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Temptation: Tools for the Eye

Hook

I have heard of a little plant in Australia called the "sundew." It has a slender stem and tiny, round leaves fringed with hairs that glisten with bright drops of liquid as delicate as fine dew. But whatever insect sees the liquid and touches it, it is doomed. The shiny eye-catching moisture on each leaf is sticky. It imprisons every bug that touches it. The insect struggles to get free, but the vibration causes the leaves to close tightly around it. Then the pretty, colorful, innocent-looking plant FEEDS ON ITS VICTIM.

If you want to avoid pretty temptations leading to getting stuck and devoured, what tools do you need?

This video will give you 4 tools.

Intro

Body

I never cease to be amazed at how suddenly, quickly, almost instantly I can be tempted. Have you ever noticed it? Temptations happen as fast as you can blink your eyes, or snap your fingers, or as quick as a tick of the clock. And that is how long it took for Jesus himself to experience the "desire of the eye"(1 John 2:16).

Here is the backstory to His temptation.

Jesus wants to lead all people away from their self-destructive patterns to a rich, fulfilling life on earth AND, ultimately, salvation culminating in heaven.

Jesus was also aware CONFLICT WOULD happen. He foresaw problems with the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the Jewish religious leadership. He was aware of the needs of the non-religious, the immoral, the tax collectors. He was conscience of the blind, the lame, the infirmed, and the

lepers. And he was acutely aware of his coming passion and pain-filled death.

Satan, knew Jesus' situation. Satan paraded all the the great kingdoms of the inhabited world before Jesus in a near-instant. Jesus SAW their BEAUTIFUL GRANDEUR. He could have seen the Pyramids of Egypt, the Parthenon of Athens, the Colosseum of Rome.

Satan presented his plans as quick, easy, painless. The greatest of liars said he was capable of delivering to Jesus all of the beauty of these kingdoms. It is as though Satan was promising Jesus the visual glory of all these kingdoms, and their allegiance, for a super-low, Black Friday deal.

Jesus could have all the glory WITHOUT the conflicts, or the cross, for the small price of bowing to Satan JUST ONCE. All Jesus had to do was bow in worship to Satan ONCE. Such a small, easy price.

But when Satan mentioned "worship", Jesus SAW his escape route. (review Temptations: Do They Kill?)

Jesus, knowing worship can be given to ONLY ONE entity, realized he had to make a choice.

Here, Jesus shows us his FIRST TOOL. It was scripture. He quoted Deut 6.13. "It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and HIM ONLY shall you serve." He KNEW THE SCRIPTURES. Your first tool needs to be accurate Bible knowledge.

Jesus' second tool was to STOP LISTENING to the great Liar. Satan was telling Jesus the kingdoms were all his, and that Jesus could have it all easily, quickly and painlessly. Your SECOND TOOL MUST be to STOP LISTENING to Satan.

Jesus' third tool was to STOP LOOKING. He stopped looking at all the glory of the kingdoms. Your third tool should be to REMOVE YOURSELF from the SIGHTS that tempt you. For example: If you like alcohol, stay away from the convenience store's refrigerated section.

Jesus' fourth tool was making a DELIBERATE choice. He CHOSE to honoring his Father. He DECIDED to conquer Satan with a resurrection. He

DETERMINED to go to the cross for you and me. And he PROVED to everyone that HE is to one who deserves our loyalty. Philippians 2:8-11 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (9) Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is ABOVE EVERY NAME, (10) so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, (11) and every tongue confess that JESUS CHRIST IS LORD, to the glory of God the Father.

Like Jesus, We get to CHOOSE whom we will serve. Let's make smart choices. DECIDE right now to worship and serve the only true God and his Son. Don't satisfy the desires of your eyes.

Will you make a DELIBERATE CHOICE to LOOK FOR A WAY OUT or ask for God to help you ENDURE TEMPTATION? Watch the 1st video: (Do Temptations Kill)

Using the right tools, we CAN WIN over temptations of the eyes.

Now you are ready for "Recognizing Temptation"

Here at Timeless Talks, We want to help you. Call this number. Leave a message with your name and need. Use the contact page to start a personalized discussion. Or use the Prayer-Request page for confidential prayers. Don't wait. Do it now!

Until we can visit again, goodbye for now.

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Tempt #3 Editor Versions

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NOTES

Jesus' Temptations (4 lessons)

4 lessons

- Follow Luke's order of flesh, eyes, pride
- Try to keep each lesson VERY short – 4-5 minutes each.
- Temptations themselves
 - 1 John 2:16 1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.
- Jesus & stones
- Jesus & kingdoms
- Jesus & temple

- Complete all 4 at one recording session
 - Do separate Hooks
 - Do separate endings
 - Edit and prepare all 4 before releasing the 1st one.

Notes on Kingdom

- It should be remembered that since Jesus has been divine, he has not had the experience of humans dealing with temptations.
- RWP
 - The devil now has Christ upon a very high mountain whether the traditional Quarantania or not. It was from Nebo's summit that Moses caught the vision of the land of Canaan (Deu 34:1-3). Luke (Luk 4:5) says that the whole panorama was "in a moment of time" and clearly psychological and instantaneous.
 - Jesus does not deny the grip of the devil on the world of men, but the condition (ean and aorist subjunctive, second class undetermined with likelihood of determination), was spurned by Jesus. As Matthew has it Jesus is plainly to "fall down and worship me" (pesōn prokunēsēis moi), while Luke (Luk 4:7) puts it, "worship before me" (enōpion emou), a less offensive demand, but one that really involved worship of the devil. The ambition of Jesus is thus appealed to at the price of recognition of the devil's primacy in the world. It was compromise that involved surrender of the Son of God to the world ruler of this darkness. "The temptation was threefold: **to gain a temporal**, not a spiritual, dominion; **to gain it at once**; and **to gain it by an act of homage** to the ruler of this world, which would make the self-constituted Messiah the vice-regent of the devil and not of God" (McNeile).
 - Begone" Christ says to Satan.
 - The third time Jesus quotes Deuteronomy, this time Deu 6:13, and repels the infamous suggestion by Scripture quotation. The words "him alone thou shalt serve" need be recalled today. Jesus will warn men against trying to serve God and mammon (Mat 6:24). The devil as the lord of the evil world constantly tries to win men to the service of the world and God. This is his chief camouflage for destroying a preacher's power for God. The word here in Mat 4:10 for serve is latreuseis from latris a hired servant, one who works for hire, then render worship.

- In a moment of time (en stigmēi chronou). Only in Luke and the word stigmē nowhere else in the N.T. (from stizō, to prick, or puncture), a point or dot....Like our “second” of time or tick of the clock.
- This panorama of all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them in a moment of time was mental, a great feat of the imagination (a mental satanic “movie” performance), but this fact in no way discredits the idea of the actual visible appearance of Satan also.
- Satan here claims possession of world power and Jesus does not deny it. It may be due to man’s sin and by God’s permission. Jesus calls Satan the ruler of this world (Joh 12:31; Joh 14:30; Joh 16:11).
 - 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.
 - 30 I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me,
 - 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.
- **To whomsoever I will** (hoi an thelō). But the tone of Satan here is one of superiority to Jesus in world power. He offers him a share in it on one condition.
- **Wilt worship before me** (proskunēsēis enōpion emou). Mat 4:9 has it more bluntly “worship me.” That is what it really comes to, though in Luke the matter is more delicately put. It is a condition of the third class (ean and the subjunctive). Luke has it “thou therefore if” (su oun ean), in a very emphatic and subtle way. It is the ingressive aorist (proskunēsēis), just bow the knee once up here in my presence. The temptation was for **Jesus to admit Satan’s authority** by this act of prostration (fall down and worship), a recognition of authority rather than of personal merit.
- **It shall all be thine** (estai sou pāsa). Satan offers to turn over all the keys of world power to Jesus. It was a tremendous grand-stand play, but Jesus saw at once that in that case he would be the agent of Satan in the rule of the world by bargain and graft instead of the Son of God by nature and world ruler by conquest over Satan. The heart of Satan’s program is here laid bare.

- **Thou shalt worship** (proskunēseis). Satan used this verb to Jesus who turns it against him by the quotation from Deu_6:13. Jesus clearly perceived that one could not worship both Satan and God. He had to choose whom he would serve. Luke does not give the words, "Get thee hence, Satan" (Mat_4:10), for he has another temptation to narrate.
- FFG
 - **8 Again, the devil taketh him** [whether naturally or supernaturally, "whether in the body or out of the body" (2Co_12:2-4), we can not tell. But it was a real, practical trial and temptation] **unto an exceeding high mountain** [it is immaterial which mountain this was; for from no mountain could one see the whole earth with the natural eye], **c5 And he led him up, and showeth {cshowed} ahim...** and as he pointed out their locality a few brief words of description would picture them to the imagination of Jesus, and cause their glories to move before his eyes. But it is very likely that to this description some sort of supernatural vision was added. It tempted the eye of Jesus ... **all the kingdoms of the world** [It tempted Jesus to realize the dreams [96] which the Jewish nation entertained. It was an appeal to him to reveal himself in the fullness of his power and authority as above generals, princes, kings, and all beings of all ages. An appeal to obtain by physical rather than by spiritual power; by the short-cut path of policy rather than by the long road of suffering and martyrdom. Jesus came to obtain the kingdoms of the world....Satan's way to obtain this kingdom differed from God's way. He might obtain it by doing Satan's will and becoming his worshiper, or by worshiping God and doing his will. Satan would give the speedier possession, but God the more lasting.], **in a moment of time** [These words strongly indicate that the prospect must have been supernaturally presented. The suddenness of the vision added greatly to the power of the temptation]; **9 and he the devil said unto him, To thee will I give all this authority {All these things will I give thee,}** [From the standpoint of Christ's humanity, how overwhelming the temptation! It was the world's honors to one who had for thirty years led the life of a village carpenter; it was the world's riches to him who had not where to lay his head. From the standpoint of Jesus' divinity the temptation was repulsive. It was a large offer in the sight of Satan, but a small

one in the sight of him who made all the worlds. Such offers are large to the children of the world, but small to those who are by faith joint-heirs with Christ (Rom_8:17, Phi_3:7, Phi_3:8). But the temptation was, nevertheless, very specious and plausible. The power of Jesus linked with that of Satan, and [97] operating through Jewish fanaticism and pagan expectation would, in a few months, have brought the whole earth into one temporal kingdom, with Jesus as its head. But the kingdom of Christ rested upon a surer promise (Psa_2:8) than that here given by the "father of lies." God had promised, and, despite the pretensions of Satan, God had not yet retired from the government of the world. It was true that Satan and his emissaries had, by usurpation, gained an apparent possession of the world, but Jesus had right to it as the heir of God (Mat_21:33-43). Being stronger than Satan, he had come to regain his kingdom, not by treaty, but by conquest (Luk_11:19-22). Moreover, he would obtain it as a spiritual and not as a carnal kingdom. **and the glory of them: for it hath been delivered unto me** [Satan does not claim an absolute but a derivative right, and his claim is not wholly unfounded (Joh_12:31, Joh_14:30, Joh_16:11). But the kingdom has been delivered unto him by men rather than by God (Eph_2:2). How much more quickly Jesus would have obtained power, had he received it from men by consenting to co-operate with them in their sinful practices as does Satan]; ... **7 If** [In the temptations Satan uses three "ifs." The first "if" is one of despairing doubt; the second, one of vainglorious speculation; the third, one of moral and [98] spiritual compromise] **thou therefore wilt afall down and worship cbefore me** [Satan and God each seek the worship of man, but from very different motives. God is holiness and goodness, and we are invited to worship him that we may thereby be induced to grow like him. But Satan seeks worship for vanity's sake. How vast the vanity which would give so great a reward for one act of worship! Verily the devil is fond of it. He gives nothing unless he obtains it, and all his generosity is selfishness. Worshiping before Satan is the bending of the soul rather than of the body. **it shall all be thine.** **8 And a10** **Then cJesus answered and said {asaith} cunto him, aGet thee hence** [The passionate utterance of an aroused soul. Indignation is as divine as patience (Eph_4:26). Satan's

sweetest temptation was most disgusting to Christ, for its sin was so grossly apparent. It ran counter to the very first of the ten commandments. Jesus would give it no room in his thoughts; he spurned it, as being as heinous as the law describes it (Deu_5:6-11). Temptation must be peremptorily rejected....it was sufficient that God only is to be worshiped. As God, Jesus was himself an object of worship; but as man he worshiped the Father privately and publicly.]

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