

## Avenues of Temptation

- Text **Revelation 12:17**

October 8, 2016

## Avenues of Temptation

- **Satan is at war with God's people**

☞ "And the dragon waxed wroth with the woman, and went away to **make war with the rest of her seed, that keep the commandments of God, and hold the testimony of Jesus.**"

**Revelation 12:17**

## Avenues of Temptation

- **Satan's warfare comes to us in the form of temptation**

☞ "Therefore, as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin; and **so death passed unto all men, for that all sinned.**"

**Romans 5:12**

☞ **Sin... my problem and yours**

## Avenues of Temptation

- **Jesus tempted** **Matthew 4:1-11**

☞ "Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he afterward hungered. And the tempter came and said unto him, If thou art the Son of God, **command that these stones become bread.** But he answered and said, It is written, **Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.**"

## Avenues of Temptation

- **Jesus tempted** **Matthew 4:1-11**

☞ "Then the devil taketh him into the holy city; and he set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and saith unto him, **If thou art the Son of God, cast thyself down:** for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and, On their hands they shall bear thee up, lest haply thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, **Again it is written, Thou shalt not make trial of the Lord thy God.**"

## Avenues of Temptation

- **Jesus tempted** **Matthew 4:1-11**

☞ "Again, the devil taketh him unto an exceeding high mountain, and showeth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; and he said unto him, **All these things will I give thee,** if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, **Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.**"

### Avenues of Temptation

#### □ Jesus knows we will be tempted

☞ “Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” **Matthew 26:41**

☞ “And bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil *one*.” **Matthew 6:13**

### Avenues of Temptation

#### □ As with the temptation of Jesus, Satan will tempt us in many and various ways

➤ “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; **but was in all points tempted like as we are**, yet without sin.” **Hebrews 4:15**

### Avenues of Temptation

#### □ Deceit

➤ “And the Lord God said to the woman, “What *is* this you have done?” The woman said, “**The serpent deceived me**, and I ate.” **Genesis 3:13**

➤ “Woe unto them that call **evil good, and good evil**; that put **darkness for light, and light for darkness**; that put **bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!**” **Isaiah 5:20**

### Avenues of Temptation

#### □ Fear

☞ “And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon: and it will come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they will say, This is his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive. **Say, I pray thee, thou art my sister; that it may be well with me for thy sake, and that my soul may live because of thee.**” **Genesis 12:11-13**

### Avenues of Temptation

#### □ Fear

☞ “Now Peter was sitting without in the court: and a maid came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus the Galilean. **But he denied before them all**, saying, I know not what thou sayest. And when he was gone out into the porch, another *maid* saw him, and saith unto them that were there, This man also was with Jesus of Nazareth. **And again he denied with an oath**, I know not the man.” (continued)  
**Matthew 26:69-75**

### Avenues of Temptation

#### □ Fear

➤ “And after a little while they that stood by came and said to Peter, Of a truth thou also art *one* of them; for thy speech maketh thee known. **Then began he to curse and to swear, I know not the man.** And straightway the cock crew.”  
**Matthew 26:69-75**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Anger

☞ “And Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said unto them, **Hear now, ye rebels**; shall we bring you forth water out of this rock? And Moses lifted up his hand, and smote the rock with his rod twice: and water came forth abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their cattle.”  
**Numbers 20:8-13**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Anger

☞ “**Be ye angry, and sin not**: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: neither give place to the devil.” **Ephesians 4:26-27**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Covetousness

☞ “And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Of a truth I have sinned against Jehovah, the God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done: **when I saw** among the spoil a goodly Babylonish mantle, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then **I coveted them**, and **took them**; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.” **Joshua 7:20-21**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Wealth

☞ “And Jesus looking upon him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me. But his countenance fell at the saying, and he went away sorrowful: **for he was one that had great possessions.**” **Mark 10:17-22**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Wealth... the love of money

☞ “But they that are minded to be rich **fall into a temptation and a snare and many foolish and hurtful lusts**, such as drown men in destruction and perdition. **For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil**: which some reaching after have been led astray from the faith, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”  
**1 Timothy 6:9-10**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Lust

☞ “And it came to pass at eventide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; **and the woman was very beautiful to look upon**. And David sent and inquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bath-sheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite? And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her.” **2 Samuel 11:1-4**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Companions

☞ “Now king Solomon loved many foreign women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites; of the nations concerning which Jehovah said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go among them, neither shall they come among you; **for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods:** Solomon clave unto these in love.” (continued)  
**1 Kings 11:1-4**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Companions

☞ “And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, **that his wives turned away his heart after other gods; and his heart was not perfect with Jehovah** his God, as was the heart of David his father.” **1 Kings 11:1-4**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Knowledge

☞ “And by reason of the **exceeding greatness of the revelations, that I should not be exalted overmuch**, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, that I should not be exalted overmuch.”  
**2 Corinthians 12:7**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Peer pressure

☞ “But when Cephas came to Antioch, I resisted him to the face, because he stood condemned. For before that certain came from James, he ate with the Gentiles; but when they came, he drew back and separated himself, **fearing them that were of the circumcision**. And the rest of the Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that even Barnabas was carried away with their dissimulation.” **Galatians 2:11-13**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Excessive confidence

☞ “Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.” **1 Corinthians 10:12**

## Avenues of Temptation

### □ Will be tempted

... but not above ability to resist

☞ “There hath no temptation taken you but such as man can bear: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; **but will with the temptation make also the way of escape, that ye may be able to endure it.**” **1 Corinthians 10:13**

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## Avenues of Temptation

- **“Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he hath been approved, he shall receive the crown of life, which *the Lord* promised to them that love him.”**  
**James 1:12**
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