

The Death of Temptation

- The cloud of Temptation courses through Biblical accounts.
 - > Adam and Eve
 - > Tower of Babel
 - > Sodom & Gomorrah
- Temptation leads us away from God—usually because we want things our way!
“Temptation usually comes in through a door that has been deliberately left open —Arnold Glasow.”
- Temptation clouds our faith and saps our resolve
- And lead us not into temptation... (Matthew 6:13)
- Temptation is no more.
- Yes, it's the death of temptation!
- Here's the obituary:
“Temptation died recently after a long struggle to stay relevant in the modern age. After enjoying a long run as one of the leading paths to evil, Temptation had lost its resolve in recent years. Temptation is survived by his wife, Covet, and daughters Regret and Ruin. Cousins Indulgence and Apathy are expected to attend the funeral.”
- How can this be? We've become a society that lives by the credo of Oscar Wilde, who famously wrote: “I deal with temptation by yielding to it.”
- We have so completely surrendered to temptation that it is no longer even relevant!
- Why have we yielded to temptation?
 - > Because we can
 - + Prosperity
 - + More leisure time (working on a farm)
 - + Availability
 - + Material gains...sweeping excess
 - + Grand Experiment/gamble:
Can you sustain an economy built on excess: things we don't need
 - > Because nothing stops us
 - + No scrutiny from neighborhoods, communities, extended families, or even churches.
 - + Ability to bring temptation into our lives and homes without being visible or obvious.
- > Because we've strayed from our spiritual roots.
 - + We claim to be spiritual
 - + Yes, we give everything to God:
Except for ur time, energy, and money!
- Instead of being spiritual, we've become
 - > Self-Indulgent
 - > Self-Deluded
 - > Irresponsible
- The example of our Lord Jesus:
 - > A quest for obedience!
Afternoon fast..Susie and youth group
 - > A willingness to deny self for the greater good
 - > Unwillingness to use crutches of rationalization and denial
 - > Filled his mind and heart with the word of God!
You have to learn it and practice it!
 - > No YIELD sign!
 - > Temptation as a sharpening tool
 - + To develop an obedient spirit
 - + To hear more clearly God's call and claim
- Temptation isn't really dead—it's all around us
- Let us face up to temptation:
 - > Avoid denial and rationalization
 - > Seek God's will
 - > Sharpen a spirit of obedience and faithfulness
- Let us face the wilderness!
- Armed with the Word of God! No yield sign!



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