

School of Prayer—Temptation

Heb 2:17-18 —He was tempted in that which He has suffered....

Jesus suffered temptation **fully**---Temptation is seldom **fully suffered**---tend to **manage** it instead.

Heb 11:37

...they were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were put to death with a sword....

Perhaps we are tempted as much by our sufferings as by our appetites.

Heb 4:15-16

I Cor 10:11-13

Temptation:

The reason why Jesus could victoriously navigate temptation without falling---He understood the real root of temptation.

Read Matthew 4:1-11-----the temptation of Christ-----

Key: Jesus has been “Feasting”---for 40 days.

- Temptation does not begin with an “event of attraction”
- It is an event of “distraction”.
- It is designed to rob you of more than you know...

Real Root of Temptation:

- To act independent of the Father
- To act on His own (our own) initiative
- To do what He saw (we see) the tempter doing rather than what He saw (we see) the Father doing.
- To put the Father to the test---rather than being tested Himself (ourselves)
- It is not what we are tempted **TO**---but Who we are tempted **FROM**.

Jesus already understood where His instructions came from.

He had practiced yielding His body for the will of the Father to be done. He recognized the temptation---because an EVENT could not interrupt His LIFE-STYLE.

- Jesus doesn't make bread at the command of the evil one---He will make it for 5000 at the command of His Father.
- Jesus won't turn water into wine at the suggestion of His mother, but when it was the will of the Father.

Let's look at temptation from another perspective----and Heb 5:8-9 gives us the clue---

(Although He was a Son, He learned obedience.....)

Since we have tended to regard temptation as an **Event of Attraction**---we have seen the object of our temptation as having a level of power---

sometimes less---sometimes more---combined with our abilities---sometimes less---sometimes more---to defeat it.

It's not about the bait.

We have looked at the "temptations"---the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life (**I Jn 2:15-16**)---the temptation being the objects themselves.....

Lust has to do with the state of our heart---not the potency of the object/person desired.

Look at the word "Lust"----James 1:13-14

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

Lust: 1937=epithumeo=to have the affections directed toward anything; desire; long after. It depends on its 'object whether it is translated "desire" or "lust".