

“TAMING TEMPTATION”

1 Corinthians 10:6-13

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In this message, we examine the process of temptation and show how Christians can resist it.

I. THE COMMON EXPERIENCE OF TEMPTATION.

1 Corinthians 10:13a – “**No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man.**”

- *Temptation is exposure to the possibility of doing the wrong thing.*

A. Temptation Is Common to Man. 1 Cor. 6:6-10

B. Temptation Was Common to Christ. Heb. 4:15

II. THE CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT OF TEMPTATION.

1 Corinthians 10:13b – “**But God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able.**”

A. Temptation Exposes the Feebleness of Man.

B. Temptation Discloses the Faithfulness of God.

III. THE CERTAIN ESCAPE FROM TEMPTATION.

1 Corinthians 10:13c – “**But with the temptation,**” Paul writes, “**[God] will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.**”

- *Temptation is not so much a matter of what we don't do as much as a matter of who we love.*
- *With every temptation we face, there is a point when we know the way of escape is before us.*

A. A Turning from Self.

B. A Turning to Christ.

IV. THE CONSISTENT EXHORTATIONS FOR OVERCOMING TEMPTATION.

- A. Recognize the possibility of temptation.
1 Corinthians 10:12; Proverbs 16:18
- B. Request help in advance of temptation.
Matthew 6:13a; 26:41
- C. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.
James 4:7; Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-14
- D. Retreat from certain kinds of temptation.
 - 1. Flee from idolatry.
1 Corinthians 10:14
 - 2. Flee from immorality.
1 Cor. 6:18; 2 Timothy 2:22; Genesis 39
 - 3. Flee from greed.
1 Timothy 6:10-11
- E. Remove any means of sin far from you.
Proverbs 4:14-15; Romans 13:14
- F. Replace bad influences with good ones.
Proverbs 13:20; 2 Corinthians 6:14
- G. Resolve to take the high road.
Philippians 4:13

CONCLUDING COMFORT

- 1. The various temptations we are experiencing are normal; all believers throughout the ages have had to resist them.
- 2. God is so good that He will not let believers experience anything for which He has not prepared them.
- 3. God will give every believer the grace and power to endure.
- 4. Furthermore, endurance will bring its own reward (see 1 Corinthians 9:24-27).