

# **SHEDDING LIGHT ON BIBLE WORDS AND FACTS**

## **Study No. 10 - Temptation**

The Bible presents a threefold division of temptation; we read in **1 John 2:16** of:

- ***“The cravings of sinful man”*** or the desire to enjoy;
- ***“The lust of his eyes”*** or the desire to obtain;
- ***“The boasting of what he has & does”*** (pride of life); or the desire to accomplish.

Each refers to an area of normal, God-given desire, which can become sin when it goes beyond the limits established in Scripture.

It is ***not*** a sin to be tempted, because Christ was... but yielding ***“breaks the law”*** – **1 John 3:4**.

Satan used all three avenues to the human heart when he tempted Eve – **Genesis 3:1-6**. Eating the forbidden fruit appealed to the cravings of sinful man.

The words ***“your eyes will be opened”***, appealed to ***“the lust of the eyes”***.

The promise – ***“you will be like God”*** appealed to the pride of life.

Eve capitulated in all three areas, **verse 6**.

The devil used the same three approaches in tempting Christ – **Luke 4:1-13**.

He still tempts people today to sin through appetite, avarice, or ambition. Christ has given us the means of deliverance.

Like Him, we are to be:

- Filled with the Spirit – **Ephesians 5:18**
- Led by the Spirit – **Romans 8:14**
- Empowered by the Spirit – **Romans 15:13; Luke 4:1, 14**.

The Lord triumphed by using the Word of God, quoting the particular verse which suited the occasion. So may we – **Ephesians 6:17; James 4:7**.

**Remember** – Only when you yield to the temptation does it become sin.

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