



# FOUNTAIN OF HOSANNA CHURCH OF CHRIST

## BIBLE STUDY SERIES: "TEMPTATION" #1

**Bible Passage:** Genesis 39:1-12

### Introduction

Temptation is a suggestion; it is an appeal to do evil. It usually tells you that you will be happier when you comply with an evil suggestion. Temptation is not a sin, but it only becomes a sin when you comply. Satan is the Chief Agent in temptation. Genesis 3:5, 1 Chronicles 21:1.

Temptation is one of the familiar experiences of a true child of God and none is immune from it. Even our Lord Jesus Christ was tempted (Matthew 4:1-11) and this is when He taught us to include in our daily prayer, *"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil"* - Matthew 6:13. **To be tempted is not a sin. However, yielding to temptation is a sin.**

In this study, we shall learn to understand why temptation comes, how it arises and its sources.

### A. Why does temptation come?

- When God wants to test our faith. James 1:2-3
- When He wants to test our obedience. Gen. 22:1
- God tests man to know the depth of our love and the sincerity of our obedience to Him in all things always. However, in all cases, God always provides a way of escape for us to overcome. 1 Corinthians 10:13.

### B. How does temptation arise?

Temptation can come through:

- Poverty and prosperity - Proverbs 30:7-9
- Discouragement - Psalm 42:11; 1 Kings 19:4
- Pleasures of the world - 2 Timothy 4:10
- Desire for power - Acts 8:18-19
- Material possessiveness. - Joshua 7:1; 2 Kings 5:20-24
- Love of women - Nehemiah 13:26

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### **C. Sources of temptation**

- Satan – Genesis 3:1-13; Matthew 4:1; Luke 22:3. Satan wants you to sin so that you can die (spiritually and eternally). This is because sin takes his own (Satan's) nature. Satan is perpetually contending for our souls.
- Worldly systems - 1 John 2:15. The world has a system, a system that is full of temptations. This comes through flashy things which increase fantasy and passion in man.
- Selfish desire - James 1:13-15. Selfish desire here refers to personal propensity; in every man, there is something you lust after (an inbuilt desire and usually customize with persons). In Romans 7:14-25, we read how Apostle Paul struggled with lust. It was also easy for David to be tempted and fall because of his personal lust. Samson was known to have a personal lust for women, and he was trapped with Delilah. 1 Timothy 6:9-10 also spoke of love for money as a source of temptation. This can best be explained as when love becomes lust.
- Evil association - Proverbs 1: 10
- The Brethren - Matthew 16: 22-23

### **Conclusion**

Temptation is a spiritual battle. Always ask God for His grace to overcome every temptation, and you will experience victory in Jesus name. Remember that temptation promises much but delivers nothing. Satan is its master planner and God allows it for your promotion or upliftment as could be seen from Jesus' experience.

A song writer says:

*'To him that o'ercometh,  
God giveth a crown;  
Thro' faith we will conquer,  
Though often cast down,  
He who is our Saviour,  
Our strength will renew;  
Look ever to Jesus,  
He'll carry you through.'*

### **Next Week**

We shall discuss ways to overcome temptation and rewards to overcomers of temptation.

**Let us pray.**