

Temptations, Tests, or Trials

It does not matter what we call it. We get a thought to have or do something we should not have or do. Then a hesitation or a slight hint not to do it comes, but we do it anyway. We have succumbed to a prideful act of the flesh. The first test came to Eve when Satan presented the forbidden fruit to her. Eve's first words spoke caution, "God said not to eat it nor touch it." Then her flesh and pride saw the fruit as pleasant to her eyes and would make her wise, and she ate (Genesis 3:6 NKJV).

None of us can resist tests of flesh and pride better than Eve. However, we have a better covenant than Adam and Eve. God is faithful to give us the way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13). Jesus is the Way to resist and escape temptations. Not only is He the Way, but He is also the Truth and the Life (John 14:6). How does He provide a way of escape? His way is to lift our thoughts as water carries a leaf. He carries our thoughts away from temptations into a safe place where we think of Him.

Beloved, we are not alone in our trials. Jesus suffered temptation in every way possible. However, He did not succumb to any temptation (Hebrew 2:17-18, 4:15-16). We can do as Jesus did when we cast tempting thoughts on Him (1 Peter 5:7). Then we dwell in the secret place of the Most High God (Psalm 91:1). Shalom!!

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