

Mankind’s Sin, Jesus’s Temptation, and the Christian Life

After last night’s evening service, Jacob Williams, a member of our youth group, shared a great observa- tion about the temptations of Adam and Eve and Jesus’s own temptation. His insights inspired me to ex- plore this connection further and share it with our church family.

In Genesis 3:6, Eve saw three appealing qualities in the forbidden fruit: it was “good for food,” “a delight to the eyes,” and “desired to make one wise.” Similarly, in Matthew 4:1-11, Jesus faced three tempta- tions from Satan in the wilderness. Later, the apostle John described sin in three categories: “the desires of the flesh,” “the desires of the eyes,” and “the pride of life” (1 John 2:16). Could these “threes” be con- nected? If so, what do they teach us about sin, temptation, and our Christian walk?

The parallels are very interesting. Eve’s desire for the fruit as “good for food” aligns with John’s “desires of the flesh,” reflecting physical cravings. Satan’s first temptation urged Jesus to turn stones into bread, appealing to His hunger after fasting. Both cases involve bodily desires tempting someone to distrust God’s provision.

Next, Eve saw the fruit as “a delight to the eyes,” matching John’s “desires of the eyes,” which involves coveting what looks pleasing. Satan’s second temptation—urging Jesus to throw Himself from the tem- ple to be miraculously saved—may connect here. Had Jesus done so, the crowds would have seen a spectacular sign and hailed Him as Messiah, feeding a desire for public acclaim. Both temptations involve longing for something visually or emotionally enticing.

Finally, Eve’s desire for wisdom and power—“desired to make one wise”—parallels John’s “pride of life,” the craving for status or control. Satan’s third temptation offered Jesus all the world’s kingdoms in ex- change for worship, a direct appeal to pride and power. In both cases, the temptation was to seize au- thority apart from God’s plan.

These connections suggest a timeless pattern of temptation. Eve and Adam succumbed, but Jesus resist- ed, showing us how to overcome through trust in God and His Word. Whether or not John had Genesis in mind, this threefold pattern—flesh, eyes, pride—reveals how sin targets our human weaknesses.

As Christians, we face these same temptations daily, but Jesus’ victory offers hope and guidance. Here are three practical ways to resist temptation and grow closer to Christ:

**Guard Your Physical Desires:** Cravings for pleasure can lead us away from God if unchecked. Practice self -control through prayer, trusting God to meet your needs. For example, before making impulsive deci- sions, pause to pray and ask, “Am I seeking God’s provision or my own satisfaction?”

**Focus Your Eyes on God:** The “desires of the eyes” tempt us to chase wealth, beauty, or status. Combat this by fixing your eyes on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2). When tempted to covet, redirect your attention to grati- tude for God’s blessings. Try keeping a gratitude journal to remind yourself of how God has blessed you.

**Humble Your Heart:** The “pride of life” lures us to seek power or recognition. Follow Jesus’ example of humility (Philippians 2:5-8). Serve others without seeking applause, and when pride creeps in, confess it to God. Find a fellow Christian who can help you stay accountable and grounded in humility.

Jesus’ triumph over temptation in the wilderness shows us that through Jesus, we can conquer our own

On Our Prayer List...

Jim Tyler-in Waverly Hosp rehab room 101

Diane Curtis-recovering fr eye surg

Al & Vicki Peek

W. R. Long

Bertha Bradford-home from hospital

Kathy Martin

Marvin England

Martha Durham

Betty Suddeath

Hattie Tate

SURGERIES: Danny Dotson-now recovering @ home/ Joyce Long-next eye surgery in June/ Wayne Vaughn-recovering

\*Claude Hurt-in hosp-not doing well requesting prayers

\*Nell Cunningham-(Pam Davis sister) in hospital from a stroke

Tennie Mae Williams-(Daniel Stanfill's grandmother)not doing well had hip surg

\*Jo Hall- Jimmy & Ronnie Tyler's sister-heart problems

\*Devin Keith-(Morgan Peyton's brother) in hosp diverticulitis, may need surg

\*Terry England-(Marvin's nephew) stroke-on life support.

\*\*Mike Gunn-home recovering from neck surg.

\*\*Steve Peyton-(Peyton family requesting prayers)been diagnosed with Cirrhosis of the liver-running tests to see if a good candidate for a liver transplant.In Washington State

\*Carolyn Wilson-(Madison's grandmother) requesting prayers.

\*Josh Barnett-(Charlotte Heights CoC Minister)benign brain tumor@treatments

\*Mark Long-(Jane Riding's nephew) now home-@ follow-up Doctor appts.

\*Dick Acuff-(Joan Long Acuff's husb/Dwight&Connie's cousin) crushed vertebrae

\*Thelma Davidson-(Gwen Bullington's sister) having problems from lupus

\*Chase Lewis-(Vicki Peek's family) having problems from lupus

Ralph Simpson- back in the hosp\*Doug Simpson-heart -(Ruby England's brothers)

\*Whitney(Bullion)Sager .-home recovering \*Shane Cobb-Horizon rehab-

\*Stephanie Greene-(Mike's sister)needs prayers

\*Charles Miles -recovering fr a fall + heart issues

\*Marcia Simpson-(Mike Burn's aunt) now home./

\*Alyssa Gold-(Robert Proctor's niece) in need of prayers

\*Mike Gunn

\*Carlene Davis

\*Margie Gunn

THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER

\*KENNY FLEMING--cancer meds

\*JIMMY PHY-CA treatments

\*ROY DELOACH, JR-(Roy's son) pancreatic cancer

\*MACK WINSTEAD-requesting prayers

\*HUDSON JONES-(2yr old son of Dan & Catherine, Walnut St COC- has Leukemia)

\*DAVID NOWLIN-CA treatments-WCOC Elder

\*DONNA BURNS-WAYNE&ANN BERRYMAN's NIECE)-CA

\*WANDA DOBBINS-(kin to Tyler's)terminal CA

\*JACKIE BORDERS- Lauren Stuart's mom

\*ROBERT GARDNER(Friend of Bill Williams) CA

\*RANAE DUNCAN-(Bo&Amy's neighbor)CA treatments

\*CASEY VAILES-(Ranae Duncan's son)also has cancer

\*\*LARRY HAYES-(fr Waverly COC) restarted chemo

\*MAGGIE WRIGHT-(friend of N. Buttrey) chemo

\*BARBARA BUCCIARELLI-CA-from Tennessee Ridge

\*ALAN JONES-Stage 4 Esophageal CA-taking treatments

**ASSISTED LIVING/ NURSING HOME:** **Humphreys County NH** 104 Fort Hill Rd., Waverly, TN 37185**June Dreaden-** Rm 204  
**AHC Decatur County-**726 Kentucky Ave, Parsons,TN 38363**Wyle Marshall** (Rm 726)-Traci Adams dad  
**NHC**—812 N.Charlotte, Dickson,TN 37055- **JoAnn Haley** **Doris Stokes-R127**  
**AT HOME:** **JIMMY MULLINICKS**-56 Mike Street/**JANE RIDINGS**-172 Indian Ck Rd/ **ELTON SMITH**-7731 Hwy 70E

VBS

JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup>

Now, less than a month away!

Please be bringing little Debbie cakes, chips & drinks. Also in need of 6' Christmas trees!

A work day is scheduled for this Sunday, May18th @ 1:00PM for all who can help with!

College Students... It's time to reveal your SECRET PAL

This coming Sun, May 18th after morning services, downstairs in the fellowship room for all who participated. Please bring your families & food

Please join us in helping Allison Erskin in preparing for her new little one, by bringing diapers & wipes, a box is set-up in the back of the auditorium for gifts

Congrats to our 2025 Graduates!

High School

Caleb Coates

Caroline Vaughn

Caroline Vaughn

College

Noah Stuart

Mason Curtis

Sarah Tyler

INFO.C.U.S. Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

Our only youth event last week was our youth devotional Sunday night after service. We had 8 youth and 8 adults in attendance. We began with a couple of games with the kids. If you’ve never played the game, Happy Salmon before, I’d recommend it. It was quite enter- taining. After a few rounds of games, it was time to eat. Thomas and Ayla Cook had pre- pared a spaghetti meal with salad and dessert. The food was great, and the fellowship was greater! I appreciate Thomas and Ayla hosting and preparing the food for us. I’m thankful for all the youth that came and for the time we had to spend with them.

Please don’t forget to sign up for our zoo trip on Friday May 31<sup>st</sup>. There is information regarding this trip on our youth group facebook page.

In Christian Love, Keith

