

Definition of Temptation: An enticement presented to lead one into sin against God. To understand the nature of temptation let us focus on the desires we turn into lust that tempt us.

“But each one is tempted (**lured into a trap; to seek to be enticed into sin**) when he is carried away (**lured away by attraction**) and enticed (**to be seduced**) by his own (**that which is distinctive to that person**) lust (**desire(s) that have become cravings that are unrestrained; coveting and craving something in the wrong way**).” (James 1:14)

“**Lusts** of the heart are desires you believe you cannot do without being satisfied. You are willing to sin to obtain and to sin when you do not obtain them. In essence, these are evil desires that dominate the heart and lead you to make dangerous and deadly decisions with your life and the lives of others. Sometimes you can turn desires that are not sin into sin because you are willing to sin to obtain them and sin when we do not obtain them thereby creating a lustful desire. It could be a desire _____ which you turn into lust”:

1. To be in **control** that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
2. To be **loved** by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
3. To be **accepted** by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
4. To be **understood** by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
5. To **never be hurt or disappointed** by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
6. To be **respected** by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
7. To be **served** by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
8. To have **personal preferences accommodated at all times** that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
9. To be **viewed as competent** by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
10. To be **approved** of by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without

11. To **belong** to someone that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
12. To be **held in high regard** by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
13. To be **significant** to others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
14. To be **fulfilled** by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
15. To be **satisfied** by others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
16. To be **valuable** to others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
17. To **maintain a favorable position** with others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
18. To be **secure/safe** with others that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
19. To **never be alone** that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
20. **To have someone exposed for the way they have mistreated you** that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without
21. **To have someone suffer the consequences for what they did to you** that has become a demand or a craving you believe you can't live without

“There are few greater dangers in this fallen world than to listen to the myriad voices that tell us that somehow, someway, satisfaction of heart can be found in the possession of or experience of something in creation. Things are not always what they seem. And in this world of deceit and danger there is no more dangerous lie than the one that says that life can be found somewhere outside of the Creator. It is always the sin of thought and desire in your heart that hooks you to the evil in the world in which you live. If your principle motive is that God would be pleased then you can liberally enjoy the variegated (variety) pleasures of the created world without rendering yourself fat, addicted, and in debt. It is only when you live for God that you have both grace-given desire and the power to say no to yourself, to exercise daily self-control, and to live as God has called you to live. You cannot live in the way you were created to live and have a lifestyle that chases personal desires. We all need to be rescued from ourselves by being spiritually awakened to something bigger than us. No life is more dangerous than the “me-ward” life that every sinner quests for. You simply cannot have yourself at the center and not end up with a life that is evil in the eyes of God.”

(*Sex and Money* by Paul David Tripp, pp. 151, 49, 62, 176, 178, 180)

How Satan Uses the World's System to Tempt Us

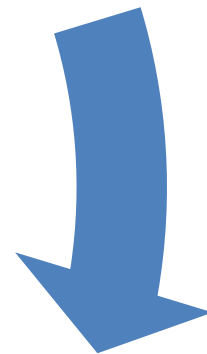
The Display of Disobedience

If we do not resist the temptation to find our delight in this world instead of in Jesus Christ, we will walk in a lack of love for God and a lack of love for others revealing a life that is consumed with pleasing self above loving God and others



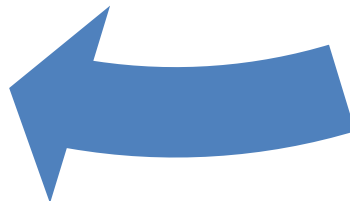
The Dialogue of the World

Satan uses the world to speak to the desires of our hearts that have become the lust of our hearts



The Deliberation of Our Hearts

As the world speaks to our hearts exposing various delights in the world that will lead us into sin, our minds contemplate pursuing or resisting the delights of the world being offered



The Direction of our Lives

If we do not resist the temptation to find our delight in the world instead of in Jesus Christ, we will live by earthly, natural, demonic wisdom, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life

