

UNDERSTANDING AND DEALING WITH TEMPTATION

Dr. Nicolas Ellen The Biblical Approach to Dealing with Temptation (James 4:7-10)

- **VS. 7** *Submit* therefore to God. *Resist* the devil and he will flee from you.
 - A. Submit to place and arrange yourself under our Lord Jesus Christ by getting back in the position God has called you to function in; to bring self under the control of Our Master, Jesus Christ.
 - B. Resist to withstand to be firm against; stand your ground in the face of an attack; set one's self against, rebel against; refuse to yield.
 - C. Flee from you to turn away from you in that particular temptation.
- VS. 8 <u>Draw near</u> to God and He will draw near to you. <u>Cleanse your hands</u>, you sinners; and <u>purify your</u> hearts, you double-minded.
 - A. Draw near to God Turn to God and expect Him to turn to you.
 - B. You turn to God by cleansing your hands make clean, removal of the impure thing; remove your body from activities whereby it is being used as an instrument for unrighteousness. It is a turning away from being a sinner- living in opposition to the divine will; to deviate from the divine will, to miss the mark of the divine will
 - C. You turn to God by purifying your heart to cleanse your mind, will, affections, and conscience from defilement; to have moral virtue, in your mind, will, affections, and conscience. It is a turning away from being double-minded of two minds; divided in loyalty; divided in interest; wavering between God and the world's system.
- VS. 9 Be <u>miserable</u> and <u>mourn</u> and <u>weep</u>; let your <u>laughter</u> be turned into <u>mourning</u> and your <u>joy</u> to <u>gloom</u>.

 VS. 10 <u>Humble</u> yourselves in the <u>presence</u> of the <u>Lord</u>, and He will <u>exalt</u> you.
 - A. Have genuine grief and remorse over your sin.
 - B. Humble yourself to place one's self under the authority of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; to place one's self as slave to Our Master Jesus Christ.
 - C. The Lord will exalt to lift up or raise up; to give you the ability to rise above your temptation and sin.