

Escape Temptation

Scripture Text: Hebrews 12:1-3

Escape: “to get away”

People love to play escape games where they pay to be timed to see if they escape. For hundreds of years, people have loved watching escape artists.

We like to escape the world up here at SMBC.

We need to escape temptation. Being removed from the temptation results in a less chance of falling into temptation.

How to avoid temptation:

1. Avoid Every Appearance of Evil
 - a. 1 Thess. 5:22
 - i. **EVERY** appearance
 - ii. We do not get to choose which ones we keep!
 - b. Example
 - i. Eating cake is a sin
 - ii. Man that is tempted with cake, removes the cake.
 - c. Must be careful to remove ourselves – Psalm 1
 - i. Progressive nature of sin
 - ii. Walking, standing, sitting
 - d. Must change:
 - i. Friends
 - ii. Lifestyle
 - iii. Habits
 - iv. ANYTHING
 - e. If it keeps you from Heaven, get rid of it.
 - i. In bulletin Sunday: “Be with someone who wants to chase God with you.”
 - ii. I’ve had to make drastic changes to be faithful, anyone does!
2. Submit to God
 - a. James 4:7-8
 - i. 100% is given to God
 - ii. He gave all, He demands all
 - b. James 4:10
 - i. Humility is key
 - ii. Cannot be faithful if not humble
 - iii. Jesus, Paul, Moses, etc. not boastful
 - c. 1 Pet. 5:6-8
 - d. Jesus the ultimate example – Mt. 26:39 “Let this cup pass from Me.”

e. *All of Self, None of Thee*

O the bitter shame and sorrow,
That a time could ever be,
When I let the Savior's pity
Plead in vain, and proudly answered,
"All of self, and none of Thee!
All of self, and none of Thee!"
Yet He found me; I beheld Him
Bleeding on th'accursed tree,
Heard Him pray, "Forgive them, Father!"
And my wistful heart said faintly,
"Some of self, and some of Thee!
Some of self, and some of Thee!"
Day by day His tender mercy,
Healing, helping, full and free,
Sweet and strong, and ah! so patient,
Brought me lower, while I whispered,
"Less of self, and more of Thee!
Less of self, and more of Thee!"
Higher than the highest heavens,
Deeper than the deepest sea,
Lord, Thy love at last hath conquered;
Grant me now my supplication,—
"None of self, and all of Thee!
None of self, and all of Thee!"

3. Flee from Satan

- a. James 4:7
- b. It is a promise – he will flee!
 - i. Flee – run away quickly!
 - ii. Running almost as if it is out of sight
- c. Matthew 4:11
 - i. When Satan realizes he cannot win, he leaves.
 - ii. We need to remember that even Jesus dealt with this, Heb. 4:15
- d. Satan will return, we must be ready! How?
 - i. Realize we have everything we need – II Tim. 3:16-17
 - ii. Realize the need to study – II Tim. 2:15
 - iii. Realize His grace is sufficient – II Cor. 12:9
 - iv. Realize there is nothing to be ashamed of – Rom. 1:16

Escape temptation by:

1. Avoiding every appearance of evil
2. Submitting to God
3. Fleeing from Satan

God has a great plan for you - \$20 bill

In submitting to God, we will live faithful to His commands, 100%.

S.O.S.

Remain faithful

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