

No more temptation for Christ child

“Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit (Galatians 5:24, 25).”

For the believers of Christ, this is indeed an important issue in their spiritual proceedings. The Holy Scriptures clearly say that God does not tempt anyone as He cannot be tempted. So, it is the tempter (Satan), who practices this martial art with the life of the children of God. The first victim for the temptation was Eve, the wife of Adam.

Genesis 3:6 reads as follows:

“When the woman SAW that the fruit of the tree was GOOD FOR FOOD and PLEASING to the eye, and also DESIRABLE for gaining wisdom, she TOOK some and ATE it”.

A careful examination of the underlined words would reveal the subsequent points:

- God did not say to Adam that this fruit was good for food
- Eve’s duty was to collect food for Adam and herself
- She enjoyed the beauty of the outlook or appearance of the fruit
- She developed the required feelings (desires) to violate God’s word
- She acted according to her justice ignoring God’s righteousness

Dear brothers and sisters, temptation is not an instantaneous act but a process. Satan really has to work with the mind of a person to tempt him/ or her (Refer to Eve’s case). Without the involvement of the person, the tempter cannot perform his task. Either God or His enemy contacts our mind through words. **Words are the basis on which the thoughts are made.** When Eve received the words of God’s enemy, she commenced the thought process in her mind. Even today we act in a stupid way mostly after receiving some bad words (thoughts) from others. Remember that God’s children must reflect God’s nature; that’s why we have received His Son’s Spirit. Whenever we receive any word, whoever speaks to us, it is necessary to examine God’s righteousness on the spoken word. Why? Because except God there is no one righteous.

WHO IS CHRIST CHILD?

Christ child is the one, who has nailed not only the sinful nature but also its associated pleasure (compassion) and the ability or potential to perform (desire) the sinful deed. For example, let us consider a man who used to drink alcohol for long time; when he submits this bad habit by nailing it on the cross, he must also annex the pleasure he used to enjoy taking that drink; then

only God could remove this sinful state from his life. Most of us do not understand the consequences of retaining the pleasure and desire of sinful mind and heart. This is the root cause for our temptation.

Peaceful mind worships God but pleasurable mind entertains Him

God does not want anyone to entertain or engage Him.

In the world, if a person realizes that his/ or her thought life system can no longer produce any righteous thought, he/ or she is either convinced or compromised that this the way that the life has to go on the earth. Also, such persons forget to notice that their thoughts are accountable (**Eccl. 12:14**). Desires are the results of the thought process, in which mind and heart work very closely. Interestingly, since a man cannot read another man's mind, he thinks locally and makes assumptions globally to conclude that all are same or alike. That's not so in the reality. The basic difference God brings into His children's life is truthfulness. **But we must understand that the truthfulness is the outcome of true repentance.**

God offers the following blessings to His children, who truly repent for their sinful state.

- New heart (new thoughts)
- Holy Spirit (new life)
- Wisdom and knowledge to witness God's righteousness (God's word)
- Gifts of Holy Spirit (**I Corinthians 12:4-11**)

Realization of sin is an internal process i.e. takes place in the mind and heart; in which one must also damp out the feelings (compassions & desires) associated with each sinful deed. **True repentance only could bring a change of mind and heart that would yield positive results (Characters)**. God has given His children the potential seeds (God's word) to examine their thought life system; whenever it shows any deviation from the likeness of God (Christ Jesus), they must correct (Fast and pray) their mistakes. In case, if we ignore God's warning, we normally land up in chaos. Remember that our God is God of peace not chaos. It means that we are trapped by Satan whenever we face trials and tribulations. At this stage, only God's grace (Christ love) would help us to come out of such hard situations.

That's why St Paul writes that the children of God must submit the following:

- Cursing
- Sins and iniquities
- Pleasures and desires associated with each sinful deed
- Chaotic nature
- Freewill based self-centered life

- Flesh
- All evil thoughts/materials borrowed from the kingdom of darkness

Christ receives all these in faith from a sinner and in reply gives the blessings into the life of the repented sinner.

The covenant God and His Son Christ Jesus has made on the cross to redeem the sinners of this world is on the foundation of faith. Christ Jesus has represented all of us. As the result, we have the peace with Father God. God never fails. When Jesus was tempted by Satan, He acted righteously and witnessed that God is truthful and just right. So, Christ Jesus has demonstrated the potential of a believer of God's word to defeat the tempter's attempts.

HOW TO SUBMIT THE DESIRES AND PLEASURES OF SINS?

The three ways Satan attacks a believer are as follows:

- Lust of flesh
- Lust of eyes
- Pride of life

John declares that no one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother ([I John 3: 9, 10](#)).

So, how do we practice God's righteousness; the following four steps approach may be helpful in doing that.

Step 1: Do not believe your strength, trust in God's power

We should never think that with our own abilities (Potentials), we can get rid of the desires, compassions to kill the pleasures, once we had enjoyed doing sins. He who does what is sinful is of the devil (Satan), because the devil has been sinning from the beginning; the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work ([I John 3:8](#)). Indeed our past sinful life was much associated with the devil; therefore the present righteous life should be much attached to Christ Jesus. Our Lord is our strength and power, through Him only we can defeat the devil's work (*sinful nature*: bad thoughts, desires, and pleasures).

Step 2: Pray immediately, the moment desire drives the mind

We must submit our free will totally when we are weak; so that the Spirit of God will take control of our mind and heart. God's will for us is to use His potential words as spiritual

weapons against the devil. In this regard, we should get trained by our Lord Jesus Christ; He handled the devil righteously by applying appropriate Scripture. Prayer brings victory over temptation.

Step 3: Walk in the Spirit

Paul says: live by the Spirit, and you will not satisfy the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are conflict with each other ([Galatians 5:16, 17](#)).

This step is really very important because it brings the spiritual energy into our mind and heart.

How do we walk in the Spirit?

When we walk, the thoughts in our mind direct our complete body and its parts (legs, hands, eyes, mind, heart etc) towards our destination. Therefore, our thoughts must be made righteous; this is possible only if we do spiritual exercise.

- Read God's word consistently
- Meditate on God's word to retuning our thinking in alignment with God
- Do fasting regularly and pray in Holy Spirit

Paul says clearly that only those who have Christ's Spirit belong to Him. If we claim that we are Christ's children then we have to walk in the Spirit ([Romans 8:14](#)).

Step 4: Distance yourself from old friends and things

The flesh is weak and does not have any power to resist the temptation. Unless we train our thoughts to go with the Word of God, Holy Spirit cannot guide us. Interaction of two people brings their minds together and creates an environment to seed the thoughts through speaking in each other's heart. Therefore, we must choose proper people and proper things in our life.

Psalmist says: I am a friend to all who fear you, to all who follow your precepts.

We should follow this route.

WHY THEN THE CHILDREN OF CHRIST JESUS FAIL?

It is our insincerity towards fulfilling the covenant, which brings often failures in our life. Let's remember that God respects each one of our words, we speak to Him. Do we honor His words?

If we truthfully respect and sincerely honor God's word then the tempter cannot stand before God's grace ([Romans 6:14](#)). The major cause for the temptation is to retain the passions and desires of the sinful act. If we nail them too along with our sins on the cross and proclaim

to God that we are no longer interested to have such pleasures in our body as the product of sins, then God is so righteous that He would put a Holy boundary, encircling us, so that the tempter could not enter into our life.

Therefore, there is no more temptation in the life of Christ child, if he/she submits all the sins and their associated desires plus pleasures. It is only testing God permits to qualify our thought life system to develop the required righteousness (fruits of love; [Galatians 5:22, 23](#)). A qualified thought life system by heavens reflects the likeness of God and God stamps such a soul as the seed of the heavens. These heavenly seeds would replace the fallen angels of Satan as the truthful worshipers (angels of peace) of the living God.

Worship is voluntary not compulsory
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Amen

Praise the Lord