

Be Sober, Be Vigilant

Memory Verse - 1 Peter 5:8 - Be sober (self restrained, cautious), be vigilant (watchful); because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

What are some things that the devil might do to try and devour us?

- He might try to distract an unbeliever from hearing the gospel and being saved.
- He might try to distract a believer from living for the Lord and showing the light of the Lord to others around us.

There are three main things that the devil will try to distract us with to make us ineffective for God. See 1 John 2:15-17. We need to restrain ourselves and be watchful and not let ourselves become distracted with the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. These things are temporal. Keep eternal things in view.

The devil was also crazy enough to tempt Jesus to do wrong in these three areas.

Look at Matthew 4:1-11

v.1-4 – Jesus had fasted for 40 days and nights and was extremely hungry. The devil told Jesus to make bread out of the stones if He was the Son of God. The lust of the flesh is a something that our body wants badly. Just because our body wants it does not make it right to do. Jesus' desire for food would have been extremely strong, but He resisted the devil.

V.5-7 – The devil tempted Jesus to jump off the top of the temple building without hurting Himself to prove to people that He was the Son of God. This was a pride of life temptation. When we have the opportunity to show to others how clever we are, it can be a hard thing to resist because we are proud. We ought to remember that anything we can do is because of God and we should direct the attention of others to Him.

V.8-10 – The devil showed Jesus the kingdoms of the world and said he would give them to Jesus if He worshipped the devil. Here the devil was trying to tempt Jesus with the lust of the eyes. Looking at things to buy on the internet, or going shopping, or looking at shop catalogues can be ways that we are tempted by the lust of our eyes.

James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Ephesians 6:11-18 tells us about the armour that God has provided for us so that we can stand against the tricks of the devil.

- V.14 - loins girt with truth John 8:44 - Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.
- V.14 – breastplate of righteousness.
- V.15 – shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! (Romans 10:15)
- V.16 – shield of faith.
- V.17 – helmet of salvation.
- V.17 – sword of the Spirit is the word of God.
- V.18 - prayer

The devil spoke lies to Jesus. Jesus used the truth of the word of God to resist Him.

Matthew 4:11 - The devil left Him alone.