

3. Trials and Temptations

The Christian life is not always a bed of roses (roses have thorns). Like everyone else, the Christian has difficulties and hardships. However, the Christian has God on his side, giving him strength to endure and persevere through the situation.

Trials and temptations help us draw closer to God. He allows these things to prove and improve our faith in Jesus and teach us to trust Him.

1. How important is the trial of our faith (1 Peter 1:6-7)? _____

2. Jesus gave an illustration in Matthew 7:24-27. Who is like the wise man who built his house upon the rock (verse 24)? _____

Who is like the foolish man who built his house upon the sand (verse 26) _____

What happened when the trials came (verse 27) _____

3. Read James 1:2-4. What do these tests produce? _____

Many times when our faith is on trial, we also experience the temptation to sin. You will find yourself being enticed to do something that is against what God wants you to do (like being tempted to steal). We need to turn away from the temptation and look to Jesus. Temptations can come at any time and we must be ready for them.

4. Who is our enemy (1 Peter 5:8)? _____

5. What are three areas in which we are tempted (1 John 2:16)? _____

6. Let's take a look at 1 Corinthians 10:13. Is your temptation unique? _____

Is it more than you can handle? _____

Are you trapped without help? _____

7. Who gives us strength to meet our temptations (Philippians 4:13 and Hebrews 2:18)? _____

8. Why is He able to make us victorious (1 John 4:4)? _____

The devil did not just show up on the scene when you became a Christian; you just became aware of him. He is the enemy of a Christian and the father of all lies (Rev. 12:9 and John 8:44).

9. According to Ephesians 2:1-2, who was influencing your life before you were a Christian? _____

Just like a cloud moves with the wind, so your life before you were a Christian was moved by the devil and temptation. A tree knows all about the wind because it fights it all the time. This is a picture of your past and present relationship with the devil and temptation (Ephesians 4:22-24).

10. What are two things we should do in our temptations (James 4:7)? _____

It is not sin to be tempted. It only becomes a sin when we give in to temptation. Even Jesus Christ Himself experienced temptation.

11. Read Matthew 4:1-11. Even though Jesus was in great temptation. He met the temptation and the attack of Satan with one weapon. What was the weapon? _____

12. What has God promised to the one who endures trials and temptations (James 1:12)? _____

What if I Fall to Temptation?

Even if we fall into sin, we should realize that because of Jesus, we have forgiveness to sin. God wants us to try our hardest not to sin.

13. What does 1 John 1:9 say we should do? _____
What will God do in response? _____

14. Overcoming sin and responding properly when we have sinned are both part of our life with God. What does 1 John 3:5 say that Jesus was manifested for? _____

15. Do you have any questions, problems, or comments that you would like to share with us?



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