

Victory Over Temptation & God's Forgiveness

All believers are subject to temptation. But victory is ours through reliance on the Holy Spirit, by believing promises from the Word of God, and by obeying His directions. He provides everything we need to resist temptation. From the day we received Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, we entered into a spiritual warfare. Our enemy is the devil (Satan) and he will do everything in his power to make us discouraged, doubting, and defeated. But the victory is ours as we trust in the Lord. Although it is God's desire that every believer live a victorious Christian life, He knows there will be times when we yield to sin. In His graciousness He has provided a way for us, through confession, to be forgiven and cleansed from sin.

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand....For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, "Do not fear; I will help you." (Isaiah 41:10, 13)

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. (1 John 5:3-5)

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. (1 Peter 5:8-9)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. (Ephesians 6:10-13)

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:11-12)

He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy. (Proverbs 28:13)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

1. What does it mean to confess your sins?
 2. What does it mean to live by the Spirit?
 3. How can you know if your sins have been forgiven?
 4. What are some of the "ways out" of temptation?
 5. How can you resist the devil?
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MEMORIZE: 1 Corinthians 10:13

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