

DISCIPLESHIP

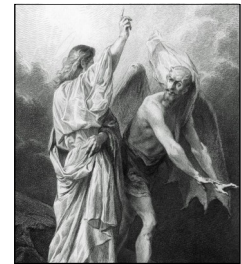


Lesson 3 Fight The 'Good Fight'



Young men always want to be seen as tough and brave. That's fine! After all, there's a lot of good things worth 'fighting for'. The Bible tells us to "*fight the good fight of faith*", and that we all need to "*lay hold on eternal life*" (1Tim 6:12) That would be like hanging on tight during a wrestling match, knowing that 'if you let loose you lose'! The Lord is, of course, right here to help us all along the way, but you gotta do your part as best you can as well!!!

Jesus knows how 'tough' it can get. After his baptism, the Bible tells us that the Lord went straight out to the desert to take on the devil, winning over every temptation that was thrown at him! (Read right now Matthew 3:13 to 4:11) After 40 tough days the 'enemy' threw his last three, biggest punches. Jesus stood on the Word of God and won every time! And you can, too!!



What is interesting is that these three types of temptation are the same ones the serpent tempted Eve with in the Garden of Eden, when this whole big mess got started! See if you can see that in Genesis 3:1-7. Every temptation falls into one of these 'categories'. John lays it all out in his letter to us. Read 1John 2:15-17 and consider. But also rejoice over the great promise to all who are victorious! (3:1-3)



Read 1Corinthians 10:13. This scripture says you can always be victorious because ^{1st} though others have the same tests, ^{2nd} God will be sure you don't get one that's too big for you to handle and ^{3rd} will also give you a "*way of escape so you may bear it*"! That's like being a fighter who never has to loose!!



This is important: Temptation is not sin, but what you do about it can be ! Read James 1:13-16. When the devil takes a 'swing' at you - duck!! Verse 12 shows the reward you receive! James 4:7 tells us to submit to God - and by doing so you resist the devil and make him run!

Learn: "Fight the good fight of faith - lay hold on eternal life" (1Timothy 6:12)
"Submit to God - resist the devil" (James 4:7)
"We can win over every temptation" (1Corinthians 10:13)

BE SURE TO PRACTICE ALL MEMORY ASIGNMENTS SINCE FIRST LESSON!!