

Satan's Strategies Against Believers

Every day, temptations ambush our souls without warning, threatening to erode our walk with God and reshape what we love most. In those sudden moments of moral detachment, a faithful promise stands ready to counter Satan's power and open a hidden path forward. The Christian has the world, the flesh, and the devil to contend with every day, but it is the devil who tempts us to evil, and he is called the tempter. As Christians, we know Satan, the tempter, well. **1 Peter 5:8:** *"Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."* Satan is constantly looking for our vulnerable moments; he passes by us frequently. Satan has brainwashed large segments of people into living however they like, without shame or guilt. They regard wrong as right and right as wrong. Temptation is Satan's magnet, pulling us off course. It's nothing new; the battle against temptation goes back to the Garden of Eden, when Satan tempted Eve. The temptation of man appears frequently throughout the Bible. Paul tells us in **1 Corinthians 10:13:** *"No temptation has overtaken you except something common to mankind; and God is faithful, so He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it."* What does that mean? When God allows temptation to enter our lives, He promises to limit the type of test and its intensity. He knows our limitations and never allows us to be tempted beyond what we can bear. Remember, temptation is not based on what we think we can handle, but on what God knows we can handle. Paul repeatedly says that in every situation we find ourselves in as followers of Christ, we are never without the Almighty's delivering power. In other words, everybody is tempted. There isn't such a thing as a Christian who's never tempted. Every single person who's ever walked the face of the earth has been tempted, including our Lord, Jesus Christ. **Hebrews 4:15:** *"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have One who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin."* God intends to make us like Jesus, and He will take us through the same experiences Jesus faced, including loneliness, temptation, stress, criticism, rejection, and many other problems. So temptation will always be part of our lives. The Bible says that whenever we are tempted, God has the end of that temptation in sight, and the way out is already available. He doesn't wait to see how we are doing. He provides the means of escape from temptation from the outset. Paul uses the Greek word for escape, *Ekbasis*, which translates literally to "a way out," "outlet," or "exit." Paul warns not to ignore the way of escape, which may be a fleeting thought: *"This is wrong. Don't do it."* The escape may last only a moment; if not taken, it will be too late, allowing that temptation to take root. The escape God provides is more than a way out of a situation; it is also a pathway to preserving the health, clarity, and strength of our souls. Ultimately, the escape from temptation is found in the person of Jesus Christ. We resist temptation by remaining in Christ. He is our certain escape.