James #40

There are three areas of pressure and temptation we all face.

Our current lesson is touching into three certain areas of temptations and challenges that will put pressure us…the OSN, the devil and the world.

We have begun by looking at the temptations of this lost and dying world.

Let us pick up our study where we left off in Romans chapter 12.

Remember I mentioned to you the build-up of Romans chapters 8 into 9, 10 then into chapter 11 - covers growing into maturity in a new age, the interruption of Israel and a birth of the CA was in view.

Now the culmination in chapter 12;

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brothers *and sisters,* by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service ofworship.

The only sacrifice we are now called into.

That sacrifice begins by always adjusting to the justice of GOD – the filling power of the HS.

The letter is addressed to Bels and the lessons revolve around growing into maturity and operating in a higher standard within the Royal Family Honor Code as well.

The world will constantly have obstacles and temptations…so this comes down to how we handle them.

Especially now after the Cross of Christ…we live in an intensified stage of the Angelic Conflict.

[Rom 12:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/2/s_1058002) And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

/Do not live according to the style or manner of this world. To be transformed is a continual process of change from inside out. The focus for this change is seen in scriptures such as Eph 4:23-24, 2Cor 10:5-6. We have to acknowledge and begin the habitual, walk in everything God gave us at salvation (40 grace gifts).\

Be renewed in the spirit of your mind – put on the new nature, get control over the soul structure.

When the spiritual growth is real and the Fruit of the Spirit begins to come forth, then you will see production.

Stop forcing your flesh to produce something the world believes is spirituality.

 REPEAT

/[Rom 12:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/3/s_1058003) For **through the grace given to me** I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as **to have sound judgment** (*sōphroneō*), as **God has allotted to each a measure** of faith.

To be of SOUND JUDGMENT is written in a Greek present tense – to keep on being this way. To be mentally clear, in control of emotions, of sober thinking.\

It is taken from the Greek verb – *sōphroneō,* (SO-FRON-AH-O) where we get a version of our English word sober from.

To be continually of a sober mind.

It means clear minded, level headed. Having self-control and what we called measured thinking.

 REPEAT

*God has allotted* is the Greek verb – *merizō* (MAY-REED-ZO), meaning having a portion or a dedicated piece of property or a gift just for you.

The aorist tense, tells us it has already been done for all of us – notice it is measured and an exact portion done in eternity past.

It is up to you to grow into and accept it fully.

/BD in the soul is designed to eliminate fleshly thinking and the arrogance of emotional dominance. Doctrine causes the Believer to think in terms of common sense, rationally, with a steady flow of divine viewpoint. Bible doctrine flowing and growing into our daily life, keeps us away from living in the devil’s trickery and counterfeits, as well as the grip of the OSN.\

The cosmic system is flawed and infected by the ideologies of demonic entities.

[Rom 12:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/4/s_1058004) For just as we have many parts in one body and all the body’s parts do not have the same function,

[Rom 12:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/5/s_1058005) so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually parts of one another.

True Christianity is weak because of this exact reason – body parts missing and many not functioning in their callings.

/The Christian church has always been under attack. In almost every generation, body parts are missing, many are weak or working in favor of Satan not God. This will reach a peak of weakness and missing body parts, just before the Rapture of the church. Full stadiums of emotional waves, political correctness and community programs, is all an illusion that makes Christianity look much more robust than what it truly is.\

The Apostle Paul knew full well we would reach a time that the majority of Christians would be involved in nonsense and counterfeit systems.

He dealt with it back then establishing the early church.

/ 2Tim 4:3 For *the* time will come when **they will not tolerate sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled**, they will **accumulate for themselves teachers** in accordance with their own desires, 4 and **they will turn their ears away from the truth** and will turn aside to myths.\

It almost makes me laugh, when I hear people warn that you have to teach strictly on one subject but its taboo to teach on another.

They do not know their bible…the very mind of Jesus Christ.

The whole bible is spiritual, social, natural, eternal, political, historical, science and math…it covers everything.

Jesus Christ was a teacher of spiritual, political, marital or social and heavenly as much as HE was an expert teacher on demonic spirits, hell and everything in between the natural or heavenly. He was also an equal opportunity offender of every culture, politician, expert or religious leader.

 REPEAT

The prophet Jeremiah covered a great principle of truth concerning this subject matter during his days and it goes well in the year of our LORD 2025.

/Jer 5:31 **The prophets prophesy falsely**, And **the priests rule on their own authority**; And **My people love it this way!** But what will you do when the end comes?

Jer 23:16 This is what the LORD of armies says: “**Do not listen to the words of the prophets** who are prophesying to you. **They are leading you into futility**; They **tell a vision of their own imagination**, Not from the mouth of the LORD.\

[Rom 12:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/6/s_1058006) However, since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, *each of us is to use them properly:* if prophecy, in proportion to *one’s* faith;

Prophecy in the NT was under the full authority of the apostles, anyone with a gift of prophecy (it was limited!), understood the end times, the rapture, the Church age, the Tribulation and the 2nd advent of Christ.

Those were the prophecies they were speaking upon, once the apostles were gone and the completed canon of scripture was done, this gift was no longer valid.

The 7 years of Tribulation will bring back, a form of prophecy, concerning warnings that TLJC is returning and what will happen. But the Rapture is the official end of the Church age so it is not our concern.

This section of Romans is a very accurate portrait of the true gifts in Christianity for today.

[Rom 12:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/7/s_1058007) if service, in the *act of* serving; or the one who teaches, in the *act of* teaching;

Service points to working for - or within a ministry. Teaching points to the gift of pastor-teacher which is different than an evangelist.

[/Rom 12:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/8/s_1058008) or the **one who exhorts**, in the *work of* exhortation; the one who gives, with **generosity**; the one who is in **leadership**, with diligence; the one who **shows mercy**, with cheerfulness.

Some Bels can go above and beyond in financial giving; others are wonderful at helping the needy or reconciling disputes. Some can develop leadership skills as administrators or deacons, pastors/evangelists or even outreach programs.\

[Rom 12:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/12/9/s_1058009) Love *must be* free of hypocrisy. Detest what is evil; cling to what is good.

(Godly love – in union with Christ)

To detest evil means it is viewed in your mentality as an enemy not something you are comfortable with.

Jump over to 1Peter chapter two RF.

/Worldlines is found deep in the thoughts and lifestyle of a person. The hypocrite acts spiritual, yet is truly not. They are either not born again, or they are, yet have no true connection to the truth of Jesus Christ and the power of the Spirit. True Christianity means you are living a life dedicated to growing and building up the body of Christ. Worldly Bels fit very comfortably into the cosmic system. \

Your life has meaning and purpose.

You can walk in any environment and deal with many types of people without giving up who you are in Christ.

 REPEAT

When a Bel finally grows up spiritually, they live among this fallen world without losing their own Christian integrity and character.

/Titus 2:11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people, 12 **instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires** and to live sensibly, righteously, and in a godly manner in the present age, 13 **looking for the blessed hope** and the appearing of the glory of our great GOD and Savior, Christ Jesus,\

The blessed hope we focus on, is the day our Bride-Groom TLJC comes to scoop us up…the Rapture!

That is the focus of your mind.

Then the glory of the 2nd Advent.

This is why I stated, worldlines is found in the soul, not on the exterior of someone in a moment if time.

/Jesus looked worldly when HE sat and dined with sinners (Mat 9:10). Jesus appeared worldly when HE purposefully spoke to a Samaritan woman (Jhn 4:7-20). Jesus rebuked religious leaders publicly many times, HE flipped over tables and made a whip to drive money-changers out of the temple. Yet at no point was HE in the flesh or living a worldly life.\

Look what the Apostle Peter taught reaching out to all Christians scattered abroad. This was a time of building tension in the Roman empire, especially toward the followers of Christ.

1Pet 2:10 But you are A CHOSEN PEOPLE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY  NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *GOD’S* OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

All Christians today are Believer priests.

The Dispensation of Israel only recognized a priestly bloodline under Aaron, the Levitical order. The shadow analogy of the CA we now live in.

[1Pe 2:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1pe/2/10/s_1153010) for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

GOD made you into a chosen and special population – with a royal and eternal status.

/[1Pe 2:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1pe/2/11/s_1153011) Beloved, I urge *you* as **foreigners and strangers** to abstain from fleshly lusts, which wage war against the soul.

Though we are legally a citizen of a country and a part of the human race – we have now become a foreign dignitary representing Christ (ambassadorship). We have to walk in a world we are no longer aligned with.\

This means somethings have drastically changed – we are to understand and live in our new citizenship.

/[1Pe 2:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1pe/2/12/s_1153012) Keep your behavior excellent **among the Gentiles**, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as **they observe *them,* glorify God on the day of visitation**.

The focus is on Unbels (Gentiles) this day of visitation may represent the Great White Throne Judgement. Which may well be a hint to the fact that the final judgment is a massive spectacle (angelic and human). Everything is fully revealed.\

It was common among the apostles to call Unbels gentiles.

THEY OBSERVE in two realms –

Unbels observe your life from a position of frustration and adversity in the natural realm. The majority do not view you as someone they agree with, many probably would rather you fail and suffer then have any success and blessings.

/The world is always waiting and attempting to press the Christian to implode and explode. Yet when we are able to stand steadfast, under pressure, we give them an opportunity to see the power of the grace plan of GOD. There will also be a time (Great White Throne Judgement), that everyone who attacked and scoffed at Bels will see their righteous status.\

Perhaps they will even see the crowns, blessings and rewards you earned from reaching levels of SM in time.

I personally believe, the times you evangelized and stood your ground as a growing Christian in front of these Unbels, will be broadcast before their final judgement.

/Worldliness is part of the challenges of temptation and pressures we all face. The Christian has everything they need to maintain a spiritual balance, to handle pressure and stand their ground. The Bel who refuses to take their time, talent and treasure and proceed into a true relationship with God will fail at reaching levels of maturity. Therefore, they are easy targets for distractions, pressure and adversity.\