

THE WAY OF ESCAPE

Int.

1. Aim: To show that there is a way of escape from every temptation.
2. 1 Cor. 10:13 "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."
3. We need ways to escape from danger - Fire escape from buildings - Escape hatch from airplanes
4. Christians need a way to escape from danger
 - a. Sin is dangerous because it will cause us to be burned in hell - **1 Pet. 5:8**
 - b. Ezek. 18:4b "the soul that sinneth, it shall die."
 - c. Sin is to the soul what fire is to the body! - Rom. 6:23
5. We cannot live out of this world
 - a. John 17:15 "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil."
 - b. We will have temptations as a Christian
 - (1) James 1:12 "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."
 - (2) 1 Cor. 10:13
 - c. We must not yield to temptation - yielding is sin
6. We need to know the way of escape from the temptations in this life.

Discussion**I. GOD PROVIDES A WAY OF ESCAPE** - 1 Cor. 10:13

- A. God is faithful
 - 1. Laws require fire escapes - some buildings require sprinkler systems -
 - 2. God is dependable, He will keep His word
 - a. This is shown over and over in the Old Testament
 - b. Men can be secure in knowing that God is to be trusted - He will do whatever He says He will do - He is faithful
 - 3. Sometimes we forget or we can't keep promises - but not so with God
- B. We will never be tempted above that we are able to bear
 - 1. N.E.B. "He will at the same time provide a way out,..."
 - 2. We try to excuse our sins by saying the temptations were too great for us to bear !
 - 3. When we sin we have failed to find the way of escape because...
- C. God always provides a way to escape from every temptation !

II. WE MUST DESIRE TO ESCAPE

- A. Fire escape or escape hatch is useless if we do not desire to escape in times of danger
- B. We will not find the way of escape from our temptations unless we desire it.
- C. We are either like Joseph or David
 - 1. Joseph - Gen. 39:1-12 - fled from sin
 - 2. David - II Sam. 11:2-5 - called for sin

- D. Jas. 1:13-15
- E. To escape from the temptations of sin, we must have the desire to escape. Ps. 1:1-2
 "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."
- F. In order to escape from sin we must first desire to escape. Then we must...

III. FOLLOW THE WAY OF ESCAPE

- A. Pilot must pull the ring for escape hatch to deliver him from danger. We must go down the fire escape to escape from a burning building. Follow the escape plan !
- B. The way of escape must be safe - if we get killed escaping then the way of escape is senseless and useless
 1. Jump out of an airplane - or jump out of a tall building to escape a fire
 2. Some try to escape from one temptation to sin by committing what they consider to be a smaller sin.
 - a. Cursing - slang words
 - b. Drinking - drugs
 3. Many time we hear people reason: "Well they could be doing something worse", in trying to justify their evil ways, when that which they are doing is also evil.

C. Notice how we follow the way of escape from these sins :

1. **DRINKING of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

- a. Believe there is a way of escape - we do not have to drink
- b. Desire to escape from this temptation
 - (1) Drunkards cannot enter heaven - Gal. 5:21
 - (2) Wrong to drink gallon, quart, pint, swallow
 - (3) Strong drink causes us to:
 - (a) Do evil things we would not normally do - Noah Gen. 9
 - (b) Many families of drunkards have been deprived of food and clothing.
 - i) Those addicted to strong drink will forfeit all they have in order to get another drink.
 - ii) Prov. 23:20-21 (KJS) **Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: 21 For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe [a man] with rags."**
 - (c) Drunkenness leads to adultery, incest, and illegitimate children.
 - (4) Pro. 23:29-30 **"Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? 30 They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine."**
- c. Don't be pressured into drinking - peer pressure is great
- d. The way of escape is to abstain
- e. Drinking doesn't make you a man, it makes you a sinner !

2. **CURSING**

- a. Know there is a way of escape - We can speak good words not evil
- b. Desire to escape
 - (1) Know that it's wrong - Matt. 12:37 "For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."
 - (2) "If any man thinketh himself to be religious, while he bridleth not his tongue but deceiveth his heart, this man's religion is vain" (Jas. 1:26).
 - (3) It shows a man's ignorance not intelligence
- c. Keep words pure and clean -
- d. Think before you speak, weigh every word
- e. Cursing does not show one's maturity but immaturity
- f. The way of escape from Cursing and filthy language is found in... PS 141:3
"Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips."

3. **SEXUAL SINS**

- a. We know there is a problem - adultery, pre-marital, immodesty, pornography-homosexuality
- b. Believe there is a way of escape - do not have to yield to these sins - even if all the world is doing wrong, we do not have to do the same.
- c. Desire to escape
 - (1) Young people trust older people to warn you about danger of sexual sins -
You do not have to commit the sin of adultery to show that you love one another.

- (2) Know that the Bible teaches about adultery, fornication - Gal. 5:19
- (3) Understand that sexual relations are for the married - Heb. 13:4
- (4) We learn from the Bible that Homosexuality is evil. Jude 7 "Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

4. **PORNOGRAPHY**

- a. Definition - "The depiction of erotic behavior (as in pictures or writing) intended to cause sexual excitement."
- b. Believe there is a way of escape - do not have to view or read
- c. Desire to escape
 - (1) It causes us to lust - Matt. 5:28 "But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."
 - (2) It leads to other sins -
 - (3) God knows what we see and read
- d. Refuse to look at or read pornography. The only way to escape is to flee from it.
- e. 1 Thes. 5:22 "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

Conclusion

1. We must face temptation in life !
2. God provides a way of escape ! - 1 Cor. 10:13
 - a. V. 14 - "Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry." - way to escape
 - b. V. 15 "I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say." - being a wise man you will look for the way of escape so you will not yield to temptation.
3. To be saved we must find the way of escape
 - a. 1 Pet. 1:6-9 - trial of our faith - the end of your faith - salvation of your soul
 - b. Ps. 119:11 - is the key verse to find the way of escape
4. The way of escape replaces sinful temptation with Godly ways.
5. We want to follow God's way - not Satan's way.

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