

Temptation Deciphered



Nyron Medina

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Introduction

The following study was revealed by divine inspiration to its author. The contents are expected to help Christians deal appropriately with temptations. The booklet explains the nature of temptation by deciphering it, breaking it down to a simple formula where it becomes easy to understand and easily identified. A lot of new terms are introduced to help the reader to analyze temptation gaining enlightenment about it. Basically it shows us that the ideas of temptation are not real or true, they are lies, fictions of the imagination, with no concrete existence in the real world, but they are given a “type” of reality only in words or audible form. Temptation is an idea, a gratification idea that incites Law-breaking and causes transgression of God’s Commandments, if its object of gratification is accepted as idealistic, and participated in. The basic thesis is that the era of sin and its temptations are not to be seen as so big, horrible, and threatening to the Christian as to instigate fear in him, it must be viewed as nothing, as not true and not real, so that it cannot do anything to the person without his choice and participation. It is necessary to choose temptation, if it is to influence the person. The only power of temptation is its ability to deceive, but that is easy to be dealt with by the use of Bible truth to unravel and expose it. The era of temptation’s hegemony over us is now past, we now face a new beginning, where sin and temptation has no power to harm us, as we have gotten above them, and feel the power we have over them. We must all learn the things of this booklet for help with temptation. May God bless all readers. Amen.

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1. There is something called **temptation**. Matthew 26:41.
2. The **temptation** we are looking at here is from the Greek word called “*peirasmos*”. Here is what it basically means:

“Generally, trial of one’s character.... By implication, trial of one’s virtue, temptation solicitation to sin, especially from Satan.” Dr. Spiros Zodhiates, **The Complete Word Study Dictionary New Testament**, p. 1135.
3. No temptation comes from God, He only allows temptation to face man. James 1:13.
4. It is Satan who creates temptations for humans. Matthew 4:1; 1 Thessalonians 3:5.
5. **Temptation** is made up of the following points:
 - a. **Deceptive claims**. Genesis 3:5.
 - b. **Allurements** according to the values that have infiltrated the mind. Genesis 3:6.
6. **Temptations** contain the following components:
 - a. **Gratification Ideas**: That is, **ideas of gratification** in things forbidden by God. Genesis 3:6,2,3.

- b. **Lawbreaking Requirements:** That is, calls to break God's Law to experience the temptation. This requires participation in transgression. Genesis 3:6,2,3.

- 7. A spiritual x-ray analysis of **temptation** therefore reveals the following contents:
 - a. **Errors** that are falsehood or **presumptive claims**. Genesis 3:4,5.

 - b. Exaltation of **creation** to be Love or God; that is, to be capable of doing what only **God** can do, or what He **cannot** do (because it is untrue). Genesis 3:5,6.

 - c. **Lawbreaking incitement**, that is, calls to break or disobey God's commands. Genesis 3:1-5.

- 8. Since it is Satan that tempts man, his aims in all temptations are to achieve the following:
 - a. Satan seeks to be exalted as God with God. (In his first temptation to man, Satan tempted man with his own very lustful ambition). Genesis 3:5; Isaiah 14:12-14.

 - b. Satan seeks to present the claim that it is impossible to keep the Law of God (because it is too grievous or restrictive). Genesis 3:1-5; 1 John 5:3.

- 9. Various **facts** about temptation:

- a. Temptations do not exist in **concrete reality**, they are **illusions, figments of the imagination** given **forms** in words only. Matthew 4:8,9.
- b. Temptations of themselves cannot be identified as **overpowering** or **overwhelming**, they are in effect **powerless** tools in the hands of the devil, and of themselves they can do you **nothing**. James 4:7.
- c. It is man that must **choose** to yield to temptation that it may exist in his heart. Jesus faced all temptations common to man, yet **He** did not sin. Hebrews 4:15.
- d. The only power or ability that temptations have, is their ability to **deceive**, this is what makes them temptations. 1 Timothy 2:14.
- e. The **influence** temptations have over people is the extent of weakness humans have for the **objects of gratification** being offered in the temptations, and the **ideas of the temptation** advocated to inform the intellect. Matthew 4:8,9.
- f. The **knowledge-ideas** of the temptation appeal to the intellect, but they also seek to stimulate desires and passions. Genesis 3:6.
- g. Temptations only take a foothold in the human's **thought-world** when they convince the deceived intellect and thereby incite the passions to flow for the ideas in the temptations. Genesis 3:6;

James 1:14,15.

10. Admonitions concerning temptations that are positive, to strengthen our Faith.
 - a. It is through **Faith** that we overcome. 1 John 5:4.
 - b. We must endure temptation (by keeping the faith and respective works). James 1:12.
 - c. Sometimes heavy and different temptations come to us to establish our Faith unto the glory of God. 1 Peter 1:6,7.
 - d. We can rejoice in many temptations, knowing that they try our Faith, and when we successfully face them, we develop endurance in all things. James 1:2,3.
 - e. With some temptations, God uses the temptation itself to get us out of the situation that has such **deceptive ability** that is difficult to handle. 1 Corinthians 10:13.
 - f. We must have **roots** in the **word of God** so that, under temptation we would not fall. This means that when a person is **sufficient convinced** not to want certain wrongs, they will not fall in trials because they are settled in the truth. Luke 8:13.
 - g. We are to pray not to be brought into temptation (that is, we are not to be led into yielding in it), because God rules, and this yielding is not a part

of His sovereignty over us. Matthew 6:13.

- h. We are to watch (be soberminded with faithful discernment) and pray that we fall not into temptation. Matthew 26:41.
- i. Some temptations, when they come to us, the things associated with them causes us to suffer; such people Jesus is also able to help. Hebrews 2:18.

11. A summary plan for dealing with temptation:

- a. Familiarize the mind with the truths of the Plan of Salvation by continual Bible study.
- b. Reevaluate the **sensuous appeal ideas** of the mind that proves to be a source of temptations. Sanctify the values of the mind by studying them with the truths of the Bible.
- c. Do not feed the errors and passions that causes you to stumble with acceptance of the **ideas of temptation** and with gratification.
- d. Pray the Faith of the Gospel always against your perceived weaknesses.
- e. Refrain from getting into situations that generate temptations to the individual.
- f. Always search the mind to see what **knowledge and value-weakness** may be hidden therein.

- g. Look at or view temptations as **impotent** in themselves; look with **truth-authority** upon them rather than with fear for them.
12. Nobody faces unique temptations not faced by anyone, including Jesus, in the past, because no temptation is of a kind not common to all men generally.
1 Corinthians 10:13.
13. We need to analyze certain **coined concepts** that helps us to understand temptation and its world better. Here are the terms:
- a. **Thought World.**
 - b. **Ideas of Temptation.**
 - c. **Knowledge-Value Weakness.**
 - d. **Audible Temptation Forms.**
 - e. **Sensuous-Appeal Ideas.**
 - f. **Gratification Ideas.**
 - g. **Objects of Gratification.**
 - h. **Lawbreaking Incitement.**
14. What does the term “**Thought World**” mean?
- a. It defines the fact that each human being has a **world** in their **thoughts**. As outside of our minds, in the world around us, there are events, people, ideas, and knowledge, etc., displayed before us, so there are **values, hierarchical values, ideals, concepts, preferences, likings, dislikes, familiarities, aspirations, habits, addictions, etc., in our minds**. These together make up what we call our **Thought World**.

- b. Anyone of these **things** that make up our Thought World can become subject to **infection** and thus **influenced** by **Objects of Gratification** and **idols**. When this happens, we then have **sin in the heart** or **Idol-Values**. Ezekiel 14:3,4.

- 15. We shall now look at what the term **Ideas of Temptation** or **Temptation Ideas** mean.
 - a. This term define **ideas** that are **temptation** in their nature or make up. It means **ideas, ideal-concepts** that are idols, thus **idol-concepts**. When a person tempts another person, the **idea** presented to be the temptation (**Ideas of Temptation**), is an **ideal concept** that is an **idol concept**, since the temptation always contain a false god, which is creation exalted to be god with God, or an idol.

 - b. Thus **Temptation Ideas** or **Ideas of Temptation** always contain **idols** or **false gods** with which the person is tempted. Matthew 4:8,9.

- 16. The next point we shall look at is called **Knowledge-Value Weakness**.
 - a. **Knowledge-Value Weakness** is in fact a **knowledge** that is a **value** that a person in his **Thought World** is **weak** towards. When a person has a **value** that is made up of **knowledge** in his mind, that he **readily** or by **habit** accepts as **idealistic**, that value he is weak towards, or easily affects his **choice of participation**. Jeremiah 44:16-18.

17. The next point we shall look at is called **Audible Temptation Forms**.
 - a. This term reveals that **temptations** are not **substantially** real, they are not truth concepts that exists as a creation, they are fiction, imaginations, that have no tentative solid form in the real world. The only form they can take in the real world is in the form of **voice of words**, that is, in **audible form**, thus, the only way temptation can have a form of real existence is in audible form, thus we call it **Audible Temptation Forms**.
 - b. Many examples exist of temptation taking an audible form. Genesis 3:4,5.
18. The next point we can look at is **Sensuous-Appeal Ideas**.
 - a. This definition fits under **Temptation Ideas**; it explains such **ideas** being **sensuous** in their **appeal**. When the **passions, feelings, emotions, taste, touch, smell, seeing and hearing**, or the **senses** are appealed to by the **temptation ideas**, this is what is called **Sensuous-Appeal Ideas**.
1 John 2:16.
 - b. It merely explains Temptation Ideas that appeal to the **senses** rather using the **rational** of the intellect.
19. The next term we shall look at is called **Gratification Ideas**. Here is what it means.

- a. This term, coming under **Ideas of Temptation**, means ideas that call for **gratification**. Gratification here means indulgence in **forbidden activities** that **gratify** the **passions**, so that whenever a temptation idea comes to the mind, it always urges the tempted person to gratify some wrong, hence the term **Gratification Ideas**.
James 1:14.

20. We now come to the term **Objects of Gratification**.

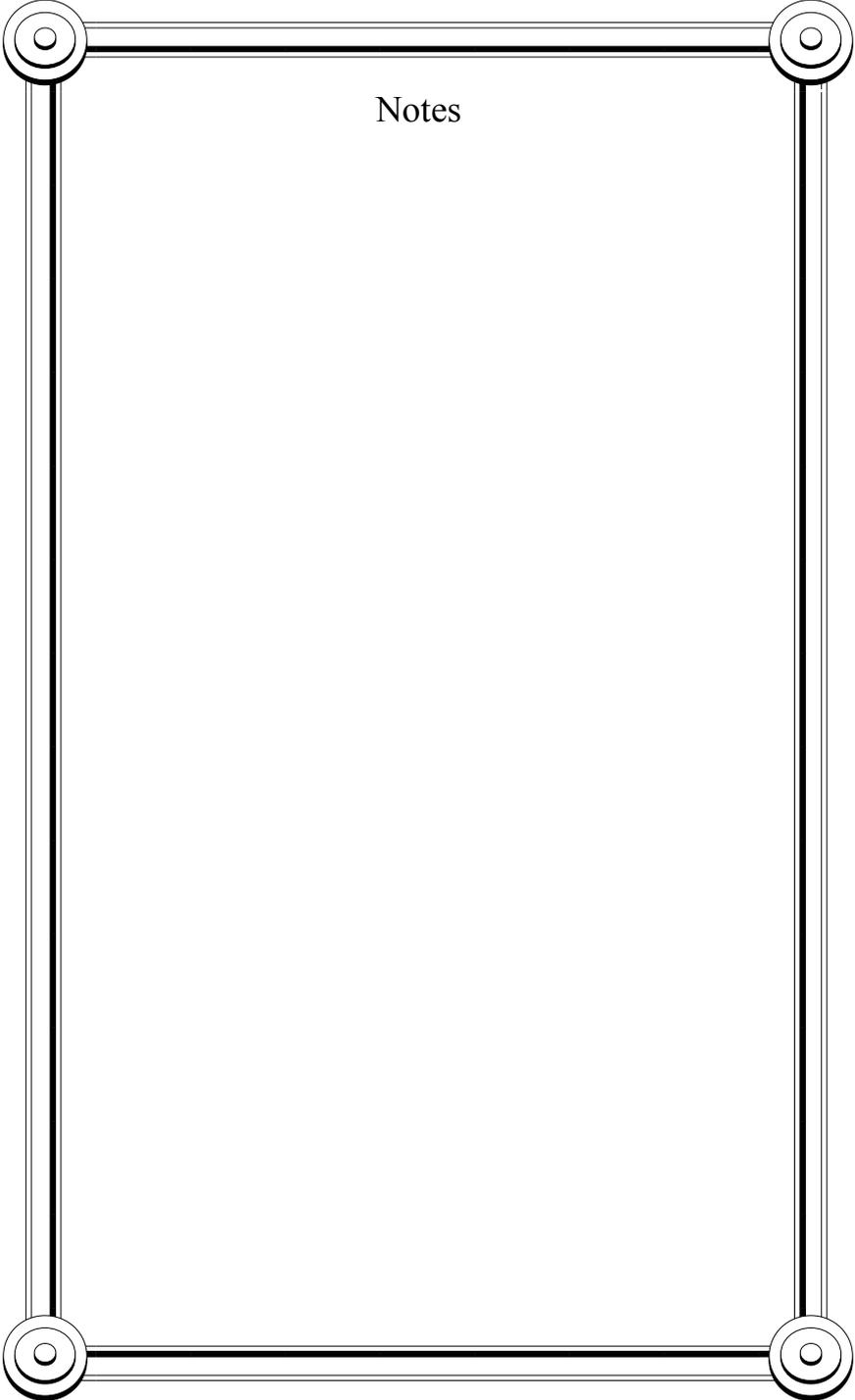
- a. This further defines **Gratification Ideas**. It basically means the **object** or **item** that one is to **gratify** their passions or indulgence upon. This object or item may be something ordinary that is not an evil, but, when feasted upon by passions or by indulgence, becomes an **Object of Gratification**.
- b. In Temptation Ideas there are usually types of objects presented for a person to gratify. Like, money, sex, food, narcotics, etc. Numbers 24:12,13.

21. The final term that needs to be understood is **Law-breaking Incitement**.

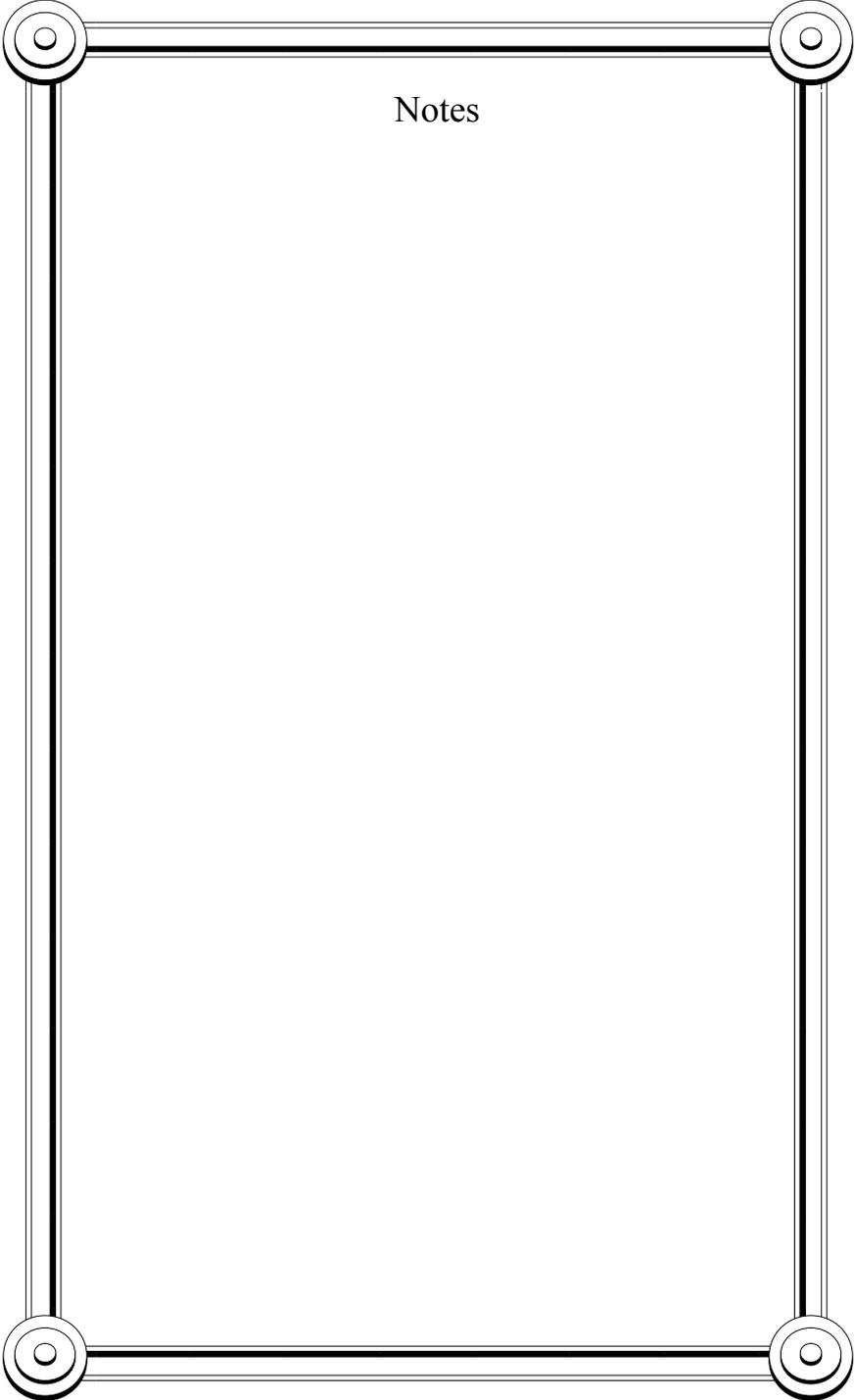
- a. This term easily means that one is **incited** in temptation, to break the **Law of God**. Whether they be Temptation Ideas, Audible Temptation Forms, Sensuous-Appeal Ideas, Gratification Ideas, or Objects of Gratification, they all call for, require, and instigate **Lawbreaking**.

- b. The point is, that temptation is temptation,
because it calls upon man to break the Law of
God. Genesis 3:1-6.

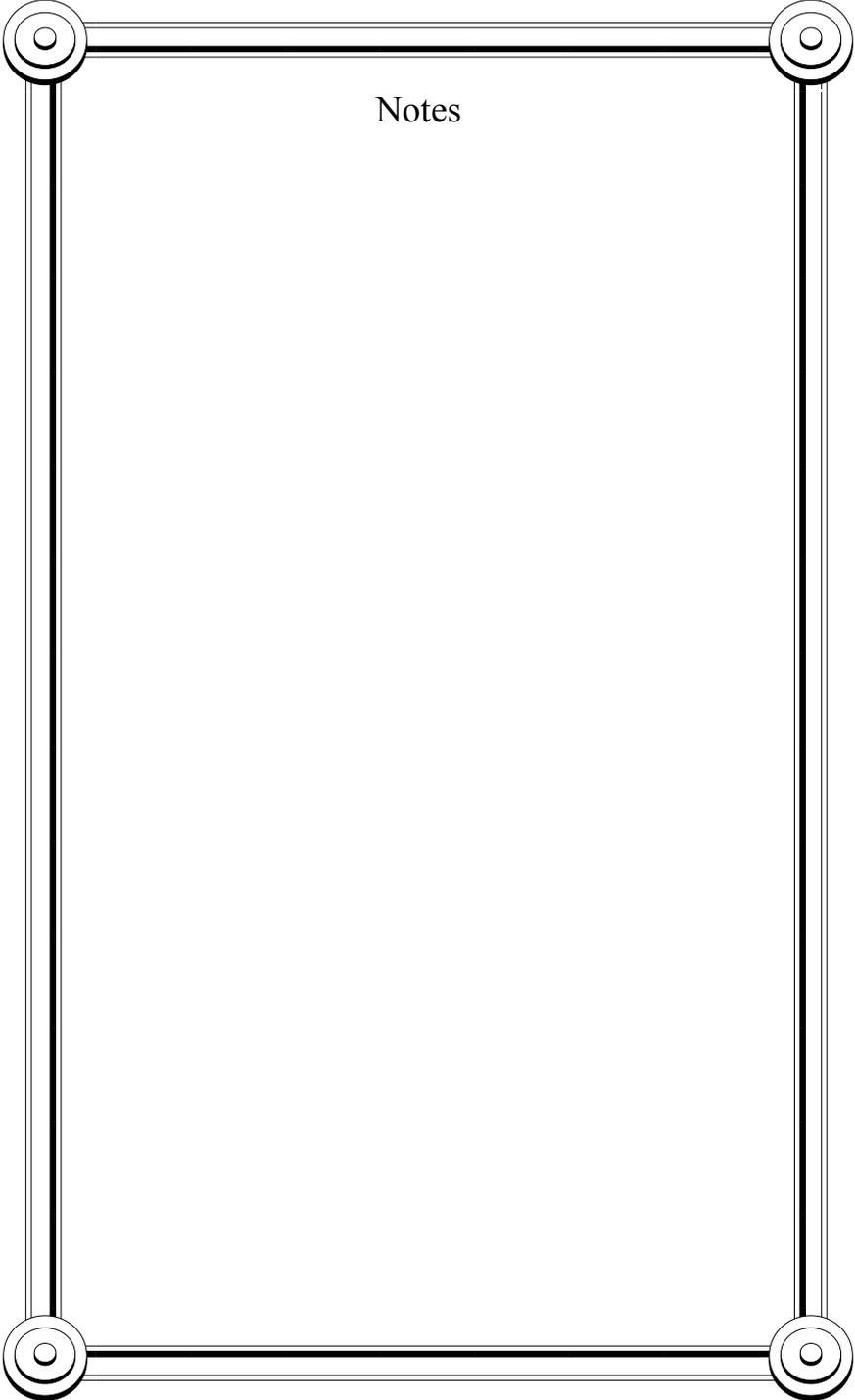
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Notes



Notes

A decorative rectangular frame with four circular corner ornaments. The frame consists of two parallel lines forming the top, bottom, left, and right sides. At each of the four corners, there is a circular ornament with a smaller concentric circle inside. The word "Notes" is centered within the frame.

Notes

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