

Distasteful Temptations

by Thomas Brooks

God loves those who are tempted, and resisting temptations is key to remaining safe from Satan's influence.

Scripture: Psalm 119:11, Matthew 4:1-11, Luke 22:31-32, Romans 7:15, 1 Corinthians 10:13, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Ephesians 6:12, Hebrews 4:15, James 1:12, 1 Peter 5:8-9

Topics: "God's Love", "Temptation"

Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes that being tempted does not diminish God's love for us; in fact, those who are most loved by God often face the greatest temptations, as seen in the lives of biblical figures like David, Job, and even Christ. He explains that temptation is a natural part of the Christian experience, akin to the sun shining or birds flying, and that the best men often endure the worst temptations. Brooks reassures believers that resisting and lamenting temptations will not harm them, and as long as they maintain a distaste for sin and a firm opposition to temptation, they remain safe. He concludes that the true danger lies not in the temptation itself but in yielding to it, and that a heart that fights against temptation is secure in God's love.

Transcript

No man is the less loved by God, because he is tempted.

Those whom God loves best--are usually tempted most.

Witness David, Job, Joshua, Peter, Paul, yes, Christ Himself--

who, as He was beloved above all others, so He was

tempted above all others! He was tempted to question

His Sonship; He was tempted to the worst idolatry, even

to worship the devil himself; to the greatest infidelity, to

distrust His Father's providence, and to use unlawful

means for necessary supplies; and to self-murder,

'Cast yourself down!' etc.

God had but one Son without corruption--but

He had none without temptation!

Those who were once glorious on earth, and are now triumphing in heaven--have been severely tempted and assaulted by Satan. It is as natural and common for the choicest saints to be tempted--as it is for the sun to shine, the bird to fly, the fire to burn. The eagle complains not of her wings, nor the peacock of her train of feathers, nor the nightingale of her voice--because these are natural to them. No more should saints of their temptations, because they are natural to them.

"Our whole life is nothing but a temptation!"

The best men have been the worst tempted!

Temptations which are resisted and bewailed, will never hurt you, nor harm you.

Distasteful temptations seldom or never prevail.

So long as the soul distastes them and the will remains firmly averse against them--they can do no hurt. So long as the language of the soul is, 'Get behind me, Satan!' the soul is safe.

It is not Satan tempting--but my assenting;

it is not his enticing--but my yielding;

which undoes me!

Temptations may be troubles to my mind--but they are not sins upon my soul--while I am in arms against them. If your heart trembles and your flesh quakes

when Satan tempts--your condition is safe enough. If
Satan's temptations are your greatest afflictions--his
temptations shall never conquer you nor harm you!

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