

THE ENTICEMENT OF SIN

James 1:14 ... "But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed."

We have spoken about temptation many times on this page. Satan is often the tempter in our lives. He finds weak walls around our character, and back-doors to test our commitment to Christ. Satan sneaks into our lives through those weaknesses. However, not all temptation is the work of Satan. Often it is the product of our own desires.

Today's verse shows us that it is our own sinful desires that often lead us into temptation and sin. If you are of good moral character, and you have given your life to Christ, then you have a degree of protection against satan. But you know where the missing bricks are in your wall of protection, and you know the secret door through which sin can enter your life. I may not know where your weaknesses are. Even your best friends may not know about those weaknesses. But satan clearly sees them and uses them to his advantage. It is like your home. You may have windows and doors to keep unwanted visitors out. But, if a thief surveys your home and finds it is easy to enter through the roof, you have left yourself vulnerable to the thief.

Satan does not always need to put temptation in front of you to capture your allegiance to him. We each have gaping holes in our spiritual protection that we have intentionally left unrepaired. We have secret entrances into our hearts and minds that satan can use to draw us into sin. We use those weaknesses to excite our minds about sin, then satan takes over and provides the opportunity for sin we secretly desire.

Satan is evil and sneaky. But you probably cannot blame him for every mistake you make, and every sin you commit. Your heart has secret desires that provide all of the temptation you need to sin. Only you, with the help of God's Holy Spirit, can patch those holes in your spiritual wall, and board up the secret back doors to your soul.

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