

# Craving The Wrong Things

## Part 2 – Testing the Lord

I Corinthians 10:9; Matt 4:5-7

### Introduction:

- A. There is a Greek word that can mean *to tempt* or it can mean *to test*.
- To tempt – is the action of enticing someone to s\_\_\_\_\_
    - The d\_\_\_\_\_ tempted Jesus, but Jesus never sinned (Heb 4:15)
    - When Jesus completed His work on the cross and rose from the dead, He d\_\_\_\_\_ the devil, death, sin, temptation, etc. (Col 2:15; Rev 12:7-11).
    - God (Jesus) can no longer be tempted (Jms 1:13)
  - To test – the action of putting someone in a situation to see how that person will a\_\_\_\_\_
    - God never t\_\_\_\_\_ us (Jms 1:13) but He does test our character.
    - We cannot tempt God (Jms 1:13) but we can test Him (but we are not supposed to since God's character never c\_\_\_\_\_)
- B. Today's lesson we will learn to recognize when we may fall into testing the Lord and what we must do to avoid this. For there are grave consequences for testing the Lord.

### Do you ever counsel God? (1 Cor 10:9)

- A. I Cor 10:9 refers to the incident of Numbers 21 where Israel played God's counselor, criticizing His decisions.
- The Israelites made this vow with God: if He would defeat the warring Canaanites, then they would destroy all their c\_\_\_\_\_. – all this happened.
  - God led the Israelites on a long journey and the people became i\_\_\_\_\_ with God and began to criticize God for:
    - Leading them out of Egypt into a w\_\_\_\_\_
    - Shorting them on food and w\_\_\_\_\_
    - Giving them m\_\_\_\_\_ every day (they came to loathe it).
  - The Lord sent poisonous s\_\_\_\_\_ among them. As many died they cried out to God to remove this plague, confessing their sin of speaking against Moses and God.
  - God responded by having Moses make a b\_\_\_\_\_ serpent on a pole and instructed the people that if anyone became bitten, they would get healed if they looked at the serpent on the pole.
  - Israel depended on God's provision and all were h\_\_\_\_\_.
- B. How might we play the role of counseling God?
- Situation: You are in need and ask God to provide that need but He is taking too long (e.g. job, a better place to live, health issue).
  - Response: You question God's t\_\_\_\_\_ and then think that you have the solution and inform God, giving your reasoning.
  - Lesson: Whenever we move from asking to advising, we are criticizing God's c\_\_\_\_\_ which is testing God.

### Do you ever corner God? (Matt 4:5-7)

- A. Jesus was tempted by Satan to t\_\_\_\_\_ the Father.
- Satan told Jesus to dazzle the crowd by jumping off the highest point of the t\_\_\_\_\_ claiming the promise of Psalm 91:11,12.
  - Jesus quoted Deut 6:16, where God commanded not to put Him to the test.
  - Testing God is putting Him in a corner, that is, in a position so that He must a\_\_\_\_\_ your way.
- B. Deut 6:16 is a review of the account in Ex 17
- Situation: The people of Israel had run out of w\_\_\_\_\_
  - Response: They questioned if God was even a\_\_\_\_\_ them and threatened Moses.
  - Outcome: F\_\_\_\_\_ for his life, Moses pleaded with God to provide water and the Lord did so.
  - Lesson: The Lord called Israel's criticism and demand as t\_\_\_\_\_ Him.
- C. When might we corner God?

1. Going into deep d\_\_\_\_\_, trusting that God will provide down the road.
2. Giving a f\_\_\_\_\_ offering, believing that God will multiply it back to you.
3. Demanding that God act, or else! (acting like He is losing out and not us).

**Conclusion:**

- A. God wants us to a\_\_\_\_\_ Him not advise Him
  1. The asking must not be casual but p\_\_\_\_\_ (ask, seek, knock – Matt 7:7)
  2. The asking must not be demanding of our will but a d\_\_\_\_\_ on His will
- B. God wants us to t\_\_\_\_\_ Him not test Him.
  1. Signs of testing
    - a. Becoming f\_\_\_\_\_ with God
    - b. Threatening to act f\_\_\_\_\_ to prove a point to God.
  2. Trusting God is the only way to live!