

SIN IS CROUCHING AT THE DOOR

Genesis 4:7

I. Introduction

- A. So far we have discussed how egregious sin is before God and how deep the damage of sin goes (mentally, emotionally, spiritually, even physical consequences).
- B. Now, we look to what God says about sin and temptation, and our ability to “master it” or be subject to it.

II. “You Must Master Over It”

- A. While many would overcomplicate what God is saying here, very simply, He means what He says (Gen. 4:7).
 - 1. The same word is used to depict rule/sovereignty.
 - 2. “rule/ruler” (Deut. 15:6; 2 Chron. 20:6; Ps. 89:9).
- B. Elsewhere, God reemphasizes this point — even under the Law of Moses (Deut. 30:11-14).
- C. We choose which master we are put under — sin or God (Rom. 6:12, 16).
 - 1. We aren’t forced to sin, we choose it (Jas. 1:14).

III. “Its Desire Is For You”

- A. The goal of temptation is your death (Prov. 5:3-6; cf. 1 Pet. 5:8).
- B. It deceives (Gen. 3:4-6; 2 Cor. 11:3; Jas. 1:14).
 - 1. We sin because we believe the lie that it will make us happier.
- C. It exhausts (Judg. 16:16).
 - 1. Being worn down is never a good enough excuse to deny Jesus at the cross (Lk. 22:61-62).

IV. What Is The Bible’s Application to Fight Against Temptation?

- A. When advising how to resist temptation, the Bible only uses extreme language.
- B. We don’t offer safe haven for temptation to reside in our hearts - eradicate it (Mt. 5:28-30).
- C. Don’t fellowship/tolerate immorality - flee from it (1 Cor. 6:18)!
 - 1. Same word, “escape” (Mk. 14:50-53; like Joseph_Gen. 39).
- D. Don’t entertain sin (Prov. 7:24-27)!
- E. Drawing nearer to God is fleeing from the Devil (Jas. 4:7-8).
 - 1. Staying idle means the Devil is moving closer.
 - 2. Befriending the world means moving closer to the Devil.

V. Conclusion

- A. Which path do you wish to take? The path to hell, or the path to God?

NOTES: