CREEKSIDE’S TEACHING NOTES for Sunday, November 15, 2015



Tempted and Tried

Matthew 4:1-11

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:13

Temptation Is Always An Assault On The Gospel.

TEMPTATION . . .

1. GARBLES OUR IDENTITY:

Temptation desires for you to have a skewed image of yourself. Whether you see yourself as being special or hopeless, as long as you do not embrace what the gospel declares about you, you are ripe for temptation’s destructive power over you.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

Matthew 3:16-17

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

*I’ll measure Your compassion by the cross and Your power by the resurrection.*

Matthew 4:1-3

*I know there is nothing I can do that will make You love me more and nothing I have done that will make You love*

*me less.*

2. TWISTS OUR DESIRES:

…but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

James 1:14

Temptation is by definition, deliberate, subtle and personality specific. It is rarely a sudden thing. The Bible depicts it like an animal being led to slaughter or like a farmer cultivating a crop.

Jesus faced all three categories of temptation:

• consumption (Mt 4:3-4)

• security (Mt 4:5-7)

• status (Mt 4:8-10)

Zephaniah 3:14-20

*Your presence in my life and acceptance of me are all I need for joy today.*

3. DISTORTS OUR FUTURE:

Temptation only works if it can hide or blur or distort our understanding of our future experience if we fall prey to its ways.

Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

James 1:15

…fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2

Jesus always lived in light of his future and our future.

WE MUST REMIND OURSELVES OF THE GOSPEL EVERY DAY AND EMBRACE ITS NEWS PERSONALLY IF WE ARE TO WIN OUR WAR AGAINST THE POWER OF TEMPTATION.