Fighting Temptation
Romans 6:12-14; 8:12-14

Sermon Outline

A. Resist (Romans 6:12-13):

1. Sin – We must not allow the body to have such powerful influence over us we willfully disobey the God’s Word.
2. Sin – We must not allow intentional acts of the world that violate God’s will influence us to sin against God.
   a) Sin and mortal bodies tie together. There is an emphasis on the body; 6:6,19, 23 (death and mortal bodies in 6:23); 7:5,23, 24 (body of death); 8:10,13, 23 (we long for the redemption of our body).

3. Reign – Do not allow sin to be in absolute control in our frail bodies.
4. Reign – We must not allow sin to authoritatively dictate what the members of our bodies do.
5. Mortal bodies – Sin can reign through our bodies because it is frail and is in constant decay.
6. Obedience – Sin must not have authority over our weak bodies so that we continuously and actively subject ourselves to its lust.
7. Lust – Our bodies have strong affections and cravings which are contrary to the will of God. We must not allow these cravings to dominate how we function in reference to the will of God. This is why Paul says; “Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?”
8. Presenting – (Compare this to 12:1) – The word present is when a person after much preparation brought an animal to be offered to God as a sacrifice. This was purposeful, because of the Levitical law, and intentional focused on pleasing God.
   a) Paul’s exhortation, “Offer your bodies as living sacrifices … to God” (Rom. 12:1). Because they were once dead in sin (cf. Eph. 2:1) but have been given new life (Rom. 6:11) believers ought to live for God. Their bodies should be used not for sin (v. 12) or unrighteousness (v. 13) but for promoting righteousness (cf. “bodies” and “body”; 7:5, 23; 1 Cor. 6:15). \[1\]

9. **Presenting** – We are commanded to not continuously offer ourselves to purposefully serve the strong affections and cravings that are of the body.

10. **Presenting** – We are commanded to not continuously yield to strong cravings of the body.

11. **Members of our bodies to sin** – The members of our bodies can become agents that the cravings of the flesh use to exert its influence so that we willfully violate the will of God.

12. **Instruments; weapons** – When sin influences the members of our bodies these agents become weapons that can fight against our inner spiritual desire to submit to the will of God (Romans 7:14-21; Galatians 5:16-19).

13. **Instruments; weapons** – When the members of our bodies become instruments of war we become more engaged in the actions of Satan’s evil forces (Ephesians 6:12) that God’s fight of faith (1 Timothy 6:12).

14. **Unrighteousness** – We must not allow the members of our bodies to become weapons that purposefully take actions against the holy and righteous standards of God.

15. **Presenting** – We are commanded to purposefully offer ourselves to God by submitting to the influence of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:12-14).

16. **As those alive - Zao** – We must continuously and actively live influenced by the Holy Spirit so that we are directed to submit to the will of God.

17. **From the dead** – We have been regenerated, through the work of the Holy Spirit, at the point of salvation (Titus 3:4-8) so we must not function as if our spirit was not quickened by the Holy Spirit bringing us from death to life. We must function influenced by the Spirit and not by our sin nature.

18. **Members** – The many agents of our body must now focus on living under the influence of the Holy Spirit so that we live righteous.

19. **Instruments; weapons of righteousness** – The members of our body should now become weapons, in our spiritual warfare against evil forces, that we discipline to do the will of God.

20. **God** – The object of all we do must be to please our God who is sovereign, powerful and is always in control.

21. **For sin** – We must not allow the lustful cravings of the flesh to drive us to willfully violate the Word of God.

22. **Master** – We cannot allow sin to become dominate in our lives to the point that it lords over us. We do not think to do what God says because we no longer accept the prompting of the Holy Spirit (Romans 6:23), we become hostile to God (Romans 8:7) and it becomes impossible to please God (Romans 8:8).

23. **We are not under the law** - The law exposed our need for the Holy Spirit because the more someone tried to obey the law without the Spirit is the more they sinned (Romans 3:20). A person who is controlled by the Spirit need no law (Galatians 5:22) because the Spirit of God who is our Helper (John 14:16-17)
brings the Word back to our remembrance (John 14:26), illuminates the Word (1 Corinthians 2:10-15), guides us into truth (John 16:13), and convicts us when we sin (John 16:7-11). “Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.” (Galatians 5:24).

24. Under grace - God willingly, spontaneously provides free-hearted, unconditional forgiveness for our sins. He does this with such generosity we have no need to fear when we willingly commit to present our bodies as a holy act of service (Romans 12:1).

B. You Got the Power (Romans 8:12-13):

1. Brethren – Paul now speaks to those who are saved and are committed to the will of God.

2. Brethren – These are believers who are so committed to will of God it has created a loving community.

3. We are – We must remember that we are continually not indebted to the sinful cravings of the flesh.

4. Obligation, debtors – We are not in debt to the flesh. We do not owe it anything.

5. Live - Zao – We must make a willful, decisive act towards being directed by the Holy Spirit in order to not be controlled by the flesh.

6. If we are living according to the flesh – However if we are continually, habitually living influenced or dominated by the cravings of the flesh we must we must constantly destroy the weapons of the flesh by bringing them under the submission of the Holy Spirit by committing to obey the Word of God.

   a) Our eyes (Matthew 6:22-23).

   b) Our minds (Romans 8:5-9; 12:2).

   c) Our tongues (Colossians 4:6; James 3:2-12).

   d) Our hands (1 Timothy 2:8).

   e) The Spirit seeks to influence our heart (2 Corinthians 1:22; Romans 5:5; Hebrews 10:22).

   f) Our stomachs; we must not be gluttonous (Matthew 11:19; Philippians 3:19).
g) Our feet (Romans 10:15; Ephesians 6:15).

h) Our bodies (I Corinthians 6:13, 15, 20).

7. **Living by the Spirit** – The Spirit provides saved believers the ability to communicate with God and walk by faith so that we do not fulfill the lust of the flesh. The Spirit is the inner power that blesses us to be overcomers (Romans 8:37), because He can pray for us when we cannot pray (Romans 8:26), He can empower us to search out the miseries of God (Romans 8:27) and when we commit to live by faith and not by sight cause ‘all things to work out for our good’ (Romans 8:28). Because of the Spirit ‘nothing can separate us from the love of God’ (Romans 8:38-39). This is why ‘He who is in us is greater than He who is in the world’ (1 John 4:4).

8. **Putting to death** - We must continuously seek to do whatever it takes to stop allowing any member of the flesh to have authority over us even the mind we must take captive (2 Corinthians 10:3-6). We must constantly keep presenting our members to Christ (Romans 12:1) while willingly confessing sin (1 John 1:8-9).

9. **Deeds of the body** - We must make every effort to stop the sustained activity of the body from controlling us. One of the fruits of the Spirit is self-control (Galatians 5:22).

a) *For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.* (1 Corinthians 6:20; NASU)

b) *You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of men. 24 Brethren, each one is to remain with God in that condition in which he was called.* (1 Corinthians 7:23-24; NASU)

10. **We will live** - When we put ‘to death the deeds of the body’ the automatic reaction for a believer is that the Spirit of God takes over. We do not have to stir the Spirit of God to move because it is automatic when we put the body (all its members) to death. It is automatic for ice to become water once the temperature in the room changes.

11. **We will live** - In order to live spiritually our energy is in putting to death the body.
C. Victory (Romans 8:14):

1. For all who are being led – All believers who are committed to not live a carnal Christian life (1 Corinthians 3:1-2) are continuously being governed by the Holy Spirit.

2. Holy Spirit - The Spirit of God is our Helper (John 14:16) who will be with us forever (John 14:17).

3. These are sons of God - A person that is ruled by the Spirit demonstrates the character of God (Galatians 2:20; Colossians 3:1-4; 2 Peter 1:3-11) as a result of the fruit of the Spirit developing in their lives (Galatians 5:22-24). As a result, no temptation can dominate us (1 Corinthians 10:13; this is why the Lord’s prayer states not to take us into temptation Matthew 6:13) because we live governed by the Spirit who also convicts us when we sin.

   a) Being led by the Spirit is to be a son of God (vs. 14), heirs of God (vs. 17), and fellow heir of Christ (vs. 17).