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Central
ASSEMBLY

SPIRITUAL FRUIT

AND THE CHARACTER OF CHRIST



SELF-CONTROL



GALATIANS 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and **self-control**. Against such things there is no law.



“How little people know who think that holiness is dull.
When one meets the real thing it is irresistible.”

C.S. LEWIS
Letters to an American Lady



Resisting Temptation... Proverbs 7



Resisting Temptation... Proverbs 7

Avoid the SET-UP:
Carelessness and Secrecy



PROVERBS 7:6-9

⁶ At the window of my house I looked down through the lattice. ⁷ I saw among the simple, I noticed among the young men, a youth who had no sense.



PROVERBS 7:6-9

⁸ He was going down the street near her corner, walking along in the direction of her house ⁹ at twilight, as the day was fading, as the dark of night set in.



Resisting Temptation... Proverbs 7

Avoid the SET-UP:
Carelessness and Secrecy

Resist the WEAR-DOWN:
Ego and Sensuality



PROVERBS 7:10-18

¹⁰ Then out came a woman to meet him, dressed like a prostitute and with crafty intent. ¹¹ (She is unruly and defiant, her feet never stay at home; ¹² now in the street, now in the squares, at every corner she lurks.)



PROVERBS 7:10-18

¹³ She took hold of him and kissed him and with a brazen face she said: ¹⁴ “Today I fulfilled my vows, and I have food from my fellowship offering at home. ¹⁵ So I came out to meet you; I looked for you and have found you!



PROVERBS 7:10-18

¹⁶ I have covered my bed with colored linens from Egypt.
¹⁷ I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes and
cinnamon. ¹⁸ Come, let's drink deeply of love till morning;
let's enjoy ourselves with love!



Resisting Temptation... Proverbs 7

Avoid the SET-UP:
Carelessness and Secrecy

Resist the WEAR-DOWN:
Ego and Sensuality

Defy the KILL:
Excuses and Decisions



PROVERBS 7:19-23

¹⁹ My husband is not at home; he has gone on a long journey. ²⁰ He took his purse filled with money and will not be home till full moon.” ²¹ With persuasive words she led him astray; she seduced him with her smooth talk.



PROVERBS 7:19-23

²² All at once he followed her like an ox going to the slaughter, like a deer stepping into a noose ²³ till an arrow pierces his liver, like a bird darting into a snare, little knowing it will cost him his life.



Our ultimate deliverance...



GALATIANS 5:24-25

²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.



“Unless there is within us that which is above us,
we shall soon yield to that which is around us.”

P.T. FORSYTHE



“A moralist will be unsuccessful in trying to displace his love of the world by reviewing the ills of the world. Misplaced affections need to be replaced by the far greater power of the affection of the gospel.”

THOMAS CHALMERS

The Expulsive Power of a New Affection



1 CORINTHIANS 10:13

¹³ 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.



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