

Satan's Three Lures

1John 2:16

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For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.

Satan's three lures are:

- **The Lusts/Desires of the Flesh**
- **The Lust/Desires of the Eyes**
- **The Boastful Pride of Life**

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Satan employed his lures in the garden upon Eve and on Christ in the wilderness, therefore, do not think you are exempt or immune to his lures.

His lures has been so successful on humanity that he has had no need to improve upon them nor has he had to add any.

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Lust/Desires of the Flesh

That is, the lust which has its seat and source in our human nature. Satan tried this temptation the first on Christ: Luk 4:3, “Command this stone that it be made *bread*.” Youth is especially liable to fleshly lusts.- Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Commentary

Sensual appetite. The desire which *resides in the flesh*, not the desire *for* the flesh. For this subjective usage of the genitive with *lust*, see John 8:44; Rom 1:24; Rev 18:14. Compare 1Pe 2:11; Tit 2:12. The lust of the flesh involves the appropriation of the desired object. On *the flesh*, see on Joh 1:14.- Vincent's Word Studies

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The Lusts/Desires of the Eyes

This is included in the lust of the flesh, as a specific manifestation. All merely sensual desires belong to the economy which “is not of the Father.” *The desire of the eyes* does not involve appropriation. It is satisfied with *contemplating*. It represents a higher type of desire than *the desire of the flesh*, in that it seeks *mental* pleasure where the other seeks *physical* gratification. There is thus a significant hint in this passage that even high artistic gratification may have no fellowship with God.-

Vincent's Word Studies

The avenue through which outward things of the world, riches, pomp, and beauty, inflame us. Satan tried this temptation on Christ when he showed Him the kingdoms of the world in a moment. By the lust of the eyes David (2Sa 11:2) and Achan fell (Jos 7:21). Compare David's prayer, Psa 119:37; Job's resolve, Psa 31:1; Mat 5:28. The only good of worldly riches to the possessor is the beholding them with the eyes. Compare Luk 14:18, "I must go and SEE it."- Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Commentary

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The Boastful Pride of Life

Boastful pride of life — literally, “arrogant assumption”: vainglorious display. *Pride* was Satan's sin whereby he fell and forms the link between the two foes of man, the *world* (answering to “the lust of the eyes”) and the *devil* (as “the lust of the flesh” is the third foe). Satan tried this temptation on Christ in setting Him on the temple pinnacle that, in spiritual *pride* and *presumption*, on the ground of His Father's care, He should cast Himself down. The same three foes appear in the three classes of soil on which the divine seed falls: the wayside hearers, the *devil*; the thorns, *the world*; the rocky undersoil, *the flesh* (Mat 13:18-23; Mar 4:3-8). The world's awful antitrinity, the “lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life,” similarly is presented in Satan's temptation of Eve: “When she saw that the tree was good for food, pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise,” Gen 3:6 (one manifestation of “the pride of life,” the desire to know above what God has revealed, Col 2:8, the pride of unsanctified knowledge).-jamieson-Fausset-Brown Commentary

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Though Satan may have three lures to catch men, we do not; we have only the gospel of Jesus Christ:

- **1Co 15:3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,**
- **1Co 15:4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.**
- **1Pe 2:24 He himself(Christ) bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.**
- **Joh 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.**
- **Joh 3:17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.**
- **Joh 3:18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.**

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- **Act 16:30** Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
- **Act 16:31** And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

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Application

- **Satan's lures are not design for unbelievers, but for believers.**
- **Do not become complacent because Satan has not attack you for awhile, the scriptures says "he left Christ for only a season" A season is only a limited period of time.**
- **To prevent oneself from becoming MIA or POW, we must continue to press forward in this struggle by obeying Romans 12:2 and Galatians 5:16(renewing our minds daily with the Word and walk by means of the Spirit).**