

5. Nobody is perfect
6. The devil made me do it
7. I was pressured into it
8. I did not recognize that I was wrong

Persons that make excuses like that are only trying to shift the blame on others and do not want accept personal responsibility. A Christian on the other hand accepts personal responsibility for his or her actions confesses them to God and asks for forgiveness and help..

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempts He any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it brings forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death (Jms: 1:13-15).



*Brotherhood
in
Jesus Christ*

Bible Studies

*Patience requires
Endurance*

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The Brotherhood in Jesus Christ Bible Study Course is an extension program of the Church of God 7th Day

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Patience requires endurance

Patience requires endurance under stress. It is the will to wait in restraint and tolerance. We have to wait for the Spirit to guide and direct our thoughts. Do not allow yourself to be manipulated by your own desires or moral manipulations of our worldly governments. If we walk in the Spirit we will not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would (Gal: 5:16-17).

Through the Spirit we wait for the hope of righteousness by faith (Gal: 5:5). The Spirit gives us direction and clarity of mind. We have to have an open mind and need the faith in God's word to direct our thoughts and actions in the proper direction. For the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. (Jn: 14:26). We must have the determination to wait for the Spirit to lead us or we get the painful feeling of the Holy Spirit that our actions went into the wrong direction.

Bad guilt is revealed when your actions are not directed or convicted in agreement with the Holy Spirit. It then makes you feel guilty and unworthy toward God.

False guilt may involve things that others may have done to you while you were personally present. (Example: a father sexually molested his daughter now the daughter feels guilty.)

False guilt is when a mother has lost her baby, because of a work related accident or medication taken during pregnancy. It makes her feel guilty and responsible for the tragedy. What we have to consider in these above two quoted instances is that the loss of worthiness hinders our prayer life and may even cause depression or other physical ill-

- b) Others were tempted, but resisted and so can you likewise.
- c) Any temptation can be resisted for God will help us to find a way out.
- d) The main thing is that you recognize these situations and people that trouble you.
- e) Run from everything you know is wrong.
- f) Pray to God for help and guidance.
- g) Seek the council of friends that trust in God. For "where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety" (Prv: 11:14). "Without counsel purposes are disappointing (Prv: 15:22).
- h) The main thing is to flee from such temptation. 2 Tim: 2:22

For Jesus himself had suffered being tempted, therefore he is able to succour them that are tempted (Heb: 2:18). For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need (Heb: 4:15-16).

God does not seduce us to sin, but allows Satan to tempt us to refine our faith. Therefore temptations come our way to test our faith. We can resist those temptations when we come to God and ask for help to give us the strength to resist Satan's influence. To blame others or make excuses for our own evil thoughts or wrong actions does not help to resolve our problems. Some people do not want to face their own behavioral patterns and come up with excuses like:

1. It's the other persons fault
2. I could not help it
3. Everybody is doing it
4. It was just a mistake

3. “Delight” yourself in the Lord and He shall bring it to pass. To delight in someone means to have great pleasure and joy in that person’s presence, but this happens only when we know that person very well. To delight in the Lord requires knowledge of God’s will and believe in that all encompassing love for His created beings (Ps. 37:4).
4. “Commit” unto the Lord; and He will give thee the desires of your heart. When we commit to God we entrust everything in our lives to His control and guidance. Commitment requires trust and the faithful belief that God provides for our necessities better than we can do so by ourselves (Ps. 37:5).
5. “Rest” in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him. To rest means to wait patiently for Him to work out what is best for us (Ps. 37:7).

It is necessary to understand that if we come to God, we should do so in a manner, not so much as to obtain something from Him, but in a way of thankful appreciation and please Him by obediently doing His will in gratitude.

In our modern culture with all the moral depravity and sin-inducing pressures we are all tempted and induced to live contrary to the will of God. Apostle Paul gave some encouragement for this problem when he wrote: “There hath no temptation taken you, but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able to bare, but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it (1Cor: 10:13).

Let us remember:

- a) Wrong temptations and desires happen to everyone, so do not feel singled out.

nesses as a result. What we must remember is that Jesus took our guilt away the moment He died on the cross. All we have to do now is to confess our sins and guilty feelings before God and sin no more. Note: We are saved from our sins not in our sins!

Another example of a similar instance we find recorded in John 8:3-11 where the scribes and Pharisees brought unto Jesus an adulterous woman; and when they had set her in the midst, they said unto Him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? This they said, to tempt Him, that they might have reason to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down, and with His finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. So when they continued asking Him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them; He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. And again He stooped down, and wrote on the ground. And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had lifted up Himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? Hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. Then Jesus said unto her, neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more (Jn: 8:3-11).

If we love God we will stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and will not be entangled again with the yoke of bondage, which are the ways of the world (Gal: 5:1).

What God forgives He will never again hold against us, but His mercy does not give license to continue in sin.

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Jesus came to preach the gospel, the Good News, of the restoration of all things at His return. He came to heal the sick, the broken hearted and to set the captives free. The Spirit has anointed Christ to preach the gospel to the poor; He sent Him to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised (Lk: 4: 18).

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We are instructed to rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him: and fret not ourselves, because of him who prospers in his way, or because of the man who brings wicked devices to pass. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not yourself in any wise to do evil (Ps: 37:7-8). God's directive is to "love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you" (Mat: 5:44). "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Gal: 6:10). "Therefore to him that knows to do good, and does it not, to him it is sin" (Jms: 4:17).

Always remember thy righteousness will God bring forth as the light and thy judgment as the noonday.

Patience and quietness before the Lord is one of the most difficult disciplines of all Christian virtues. David gives us with Psalm 37:1, 3-7 an example of the most difficult virtuous instances that have to be attained by all true Christians. He emphasizes the following:

1. "Fret not," aggravate or worry thyself because of evildoers. Never envy evil people, because anger and worry are two very destructive emotional elements in our lives that only reveal our lack of faith. When you continuously dwell on your problems you get only angry and frustrated.
2. "Trust" in the Lord, requires patient and long suffering. Do good; so shall thou dwell in the land, and be fed. (Ps. 37:3). The solution is to trust in the Lord in His goodness, love and compassion and you will find the blessing of assurance and inner peace (Ps. 37:1).