

- But **SEXUAL SIN** is a watershed – a **CUTOFF POINT** →
What does that mean? Every Christian has some sin in his life; again, that is not good, *but it is reality!*
 However, **no Christian has sexual sin in his life BECAUSE sexual sin is the cutoff point between a person and Christ!** In other words, those who choose to go that far – *to commit sexual sin* – have crossed the line and stepped out of the kingdom of God. *What does the Bible say?*
 - **1 Corinthians 6:9** “...Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral...nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰ ...will inherit the kingdom of God.”
 - **Ephesians 5:5** “For of this you can be sure: No immoral...person...has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.”
 - **1 Thessalonians 4:3** “It is God's will that you should...avoid sexual immorality... ⁸ Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God...”

To all who have crossed the line by committing sexual sin, they need to be converted all over again! For all such people, God is willing to reconvert them → to again: ✦ make them sorry for their sins and ✦ unite them to Jesus Christ the Savior! **GOD DOES THAT WORK THROUGH HIS WORD!**¹

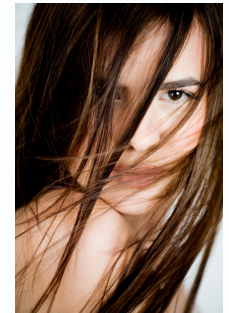
Whenever we are tempted sexually, *let us flee!* But for all who fall, *let us return to the Word of God so that God can reunite us to Christ!* And all God’s people said: *Amen!*

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¹ Acts 20:32; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:23

Joseph was Tempted, But He Did Not Fall!

Based on Genesis 39:1-12 NIV



4th Sunday in Lent – 2010
 March 14 → 8:15 & 10:45

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ, this is our 4th Sunday on the topic of temptation:

- **Jesus** – was tempted, **BUT HE DID NOT FALL!** He is our sinless Savior! He lived in our place; then He suffered and died to pay for our sins!
- **Eve** – was tempted, but she, *then Adam*, fell, WHICH BROUGHT SIN TO EVERYONE; so **WE ALL NEED JESUS!**
- **Job** – was greatly tempted → *in about one minute he heard the shocking news that all of his many livestock, servants, and children were either stolen or dead*, YET HE DID NOT SIN BY BLAMING GOD!
- **Joseph** – was tempted in regard to SEXUAL SIN; even though Joseph lived about 3,800 years ago, *let us learn from him how to deal with sexual sin in the 21st century!*

1. **Joseph – Some Previous Events in his Life** – Before we come to his temptation, *let's get to know Joseph!*
 - a. His father's name is Jacob; Jacob's name was changed to Israel *after his wrestling match with God!*
 - b. Overall he was the 11th son born to Jacob but the 1st son born to Rachel, *who was his favorite wife!*
 - c. He was favored by his father but despised by his older brothers, *who finally sold him into slavery!*

2. **Joseph – He was Richly Blessed by the Lord** –¹ Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there.² **The LORD was with Joseph and he prospered**, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master.³ When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that **the LORD gave him success in everything he did**,⁴ Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. **Potiphar put him in charge of his household**, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned.⁵ From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. **The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had**, both in the house and in the field.⁶ So he left in Joseph's care everything he had; **with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything** except the food he ate.

3. **Joseph – He was Pursued by a Married Woman** – Now Joseph was **well-built and handsome**,⁷ and after a while his master's wife **took notice of Joseph and said, "Come**

to bed with me!"⁸ But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care."⁹ No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. **How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?"**¹⁰ And **though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.**

4. **Joseph – He Fled from Sexual Immorality** –¹¹ One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside.¹² **She caught him by his cloak** and said, "Come to bed with me!" But **he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.**

Conclusion: There are a *countless* number of ways in which people can fall into sin. *Furthermore, all sin – WITHOUT REPENTANCE (sorrow and faith) – will lead to eternal punishment!* So why are sexual sins mentioned so often in the Bible? Let me explain: No one can live WITHOUT sin, but SEXUAL SINS are a WATERSHED – thus a division, a dividing line, a cutoff point. Let me further explain what I mean:

- **No can live WITHOUT sin** → ^{NAS} **Ecclesiastes 7:20** "Indeed, **there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good** and who never sins." Does that mean that some sins are okay? *BY NO MEANS!* We should strive to avoid all sins, *BUT NO ONE CAN FULLY DO SO!* That is why we continue to trust in Christ crucified – *IN HIS FINISHED WORK* – by which we have God's forgiveness!