

## Advent 2024 Devotionals - Week 3

For the third week of Advent 2024, we will continue to use the theme of the Promises of God. Whether through God speaking directly or through the Prophets, His Promises are rich daily. This week, we will look at New and Old Testament sources for the Promises of God. We will unwrap His Promises and determine what each holds for us today. Along the way, we may find a few surprises or a fresh perspective on what each promise gives us.

Pam and I hope your time reading these devotionals is blessed during this Advent season.

All scriptural references are from the English Standard Version of the Holy Bible.





Advent 2024 Week 3 Day 1 - No Temptation Has Overtaken You

I was talking with a friend the other day about sermons we have heard. As part of our search for our next Senior Pastor, we have listened to various pastors' sermons. My friend shared that he prefers a message that gives him one excellent idea to focus on and use in his life. Each of us has our preferences. The critical point is that we hear a helpful message that gives us ideas we can use daily.

In 1 Corinthians 10:13, the Apostle Paul shares insight into another of God's promises, "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

Temptation is a potent force. But it's not greater than God. Yet, many will be deceived into thinking it is. We, as believers, know that is not the case. So, with an eye toward the insight offered by my friend, here's an idea to try when tempted. When you feel that temptation, pick up your bible and read from scripture. Let your focus go to God's word and away from temptation. Many of us have bible apps on our smartphones that we can use to substitute for our hardcopy Bibles at a moment's notice.

Whatever works for you, try to divert your attention away from the source of temptation and let God fill your thoughts. God gives you the path out of addiction. He provides that way of escape from the gripping temptation. Prayer is a key step in that escape path. This path of escape is offered freely and out of His love. It is what God promises to all who are burdened by temptation.

Leaning On Jesus
Forest & Pamela Holmes

