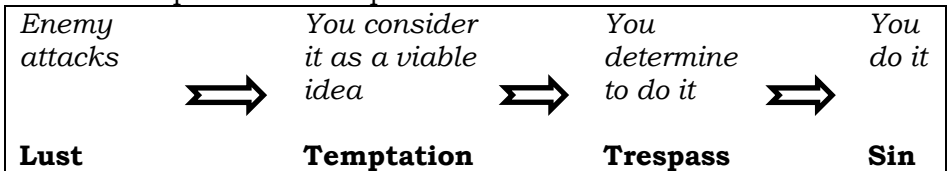


The Christian's Racecourse
The Holy Spirit's filling ministry

- I. The filling ministry of the Holy Spirit is not control of the Christian; it not a mysterious, esoteric concept; it is not a feeling.
1. The Holy Spirits filling is one of several ministries: 1) regeneration 2) baptism 3) indwelling (sealing, earnest, first-fruit, anointing, quenching, guiding, and teaching), 4) reproving, 5) filling, 6) walking by the Spirit, 7) leading of the Holy Spirit.
 2. “. . . be you all being filled by the Spirit.” (Eph. 5:18). therefore:
 - 1) Not every Christian is filled.
 - 2) All Christians have the potential to be filled.
 - 3) Filling is repetitive—happens over and over again.
 - 4) Filling is in the passive voice; however, the Christian is only passive in the sense he cannot fill himself, the Holy Spirit fills him.
 - 5) Spirit filling enables the Christian when facing temptation from spiritual enemies, particularly the sin nature (Ephesians chapter five context).

- II. Temptation is a solicitation to evil. It is in the area of thought.
1. James has the clearest explanation of temptation (Jam. 1:13-15):
 13. **Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted from God:” for God is unable to be tempted from something lacking in character, neither will He, Himself, tempt anyone.**
 14. **But each one is being tempted by his very own lust, being drawn out and being caught as with bait.**
 15. **Then the lust having conceived bears (like a child) sin, and the sin having been fully formed bring forth death.**
 2. This sequence can be pictured:



3. We are saved in the realm of our human spirit (1 Cor. 2:11; 6:17 cf. Jn. 3:6).
- III. The Holy Spirit's filling is in the realm of the human spirit. All sin, or righteousness, first beings with thoughts in the mind prior to the action; it is in the area of thought that the Holy Spirit enables the Christian by providing alternate thoughts. Thoughts—counter thoughts (Gal.5:17). Next the mind of Christ.