

## **Satan's Temptations**

### *The lust of bitterness*

#### **I.** The Satan's methods

1. He disrupts the results of the workings of the mind (2 Cor. 2:11)
2. While Jesus was on earth, Satan used this method to hinder salvation Lu. 8:12).
  - 1) Heart involves the mind, will, and emotion.
  - 2) This was before the Holy Spirit's reproof work (Jn. 16:8).
  - 3) The truth got into their minds and was emotionally satisfying then Satan removed the truth before they could will to believe; he disrupted the results of the workings of their minds.
  - 4) Currently Satan does even let the truth into the mind of those who will not believe (2 Cor. 4:3-4).

#### **II.** The lust to be bitter, a sour attitude.

1. Bitterness is from Satan (Job 7:11; 10:1).
2. Bitterness is unrighteous, not sin (Acts 8:9-23).
3. Bitterness is partners with wrath and anger and leads to malice (Eph. 4:31).
4. Bitterness arouses works from the flesh (Jam. 3:14).
  - 1) Satan cannot directly excite works from the flesh; however, he can manipulate circumstances that provoke the flesh.
  - 2) Bitterness is in the natural heart.
5. The bitter Christian will not only affect ones' self, but may pollute the spiritual life of others (Heb. 12:15).