

Satan's Temptations

*The lust of laziness in spiritual matters
As opposed to the Christian work principle*

- I.** The early church is not an example for today regarding their communal living.
 1. They had little to no revelation on how to live the Christian life.
 2. That is why at the beginning they gathered together awaiting more information (Acts 4:32-35).
 3. This system was changed within a year or so (Acts 8:1).
 4. Paul began receiving revelation after Acts 9 (Acts 26:16).
- II.** Paul is an example of the work ethic for today (1 Cor. 4:12; 2 Thes. 3:8-15).
 1. Paul was a role model regarding work (vv. 7-8).
 2. They were to imitate Paul's work ethic (v. 9).
 3. If one desires not to work, he is not to eat (vv. 10, 12).
 4. Some had a lifestyle of being idle and a busybody (v. 11).
 5. Spiritual Christians are not to lose courage while correcting other believers regarding laziness (v. 13 cf. 16).
 6. Correction is to change behavior (vv. 14-15).
- III.** The example of idle young widows (1 Tim. 5:7-15).
 1. The cultural setting: no Social Security, no pension, no welfare—no income.
 2. The Christian family, not government is who is supposed to provide for those in need (v. 8).
 3. Younger widows set aside their first faith (vv. 11-12).
 - 1) To marry another believer is a legitimate ambition.
 - 2) However, it should never replace the number one priority of Body responsibility to the Head.
 4. Not working—idle ones, gossips, and busybodies (v. 13).
 5. There is a God approved, role for a woman (v. 14).
 6. These lusts originate from Satan as he manipulates the flesh (v. 15 cf. v. 11).
- IV.** The Christian work ethic is compatible with peace, a facet of the fruit from the Spirit (v. 16).