His Help in Temptation Psalm 119:9,11

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"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to Thy Word. Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee" (Psalm 119:9, 11).

We know from the Scripture, and from experience, that Satan our enemy, relentlessly tempts us to sin. Temptations also come from within. The Bible says, "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed" (James 1:14).

But regardless of the source of temptation, we are promised that we can have victory. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that which ye are able, but will, with the temptation, also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (I Corinthians 10:13).

Today's verse gives a primary means of combating temptation. We can have victory over temptation and keep our lives pure by saturating our hearts with God's Word. The Word of God is the "sword of the Spirit."

Jesus used this sword to overcome Satan's temptations in the wilderness. One important reason for memorizing Scripture is to make this sword available to the Holy Spirit 24 hours a day.

Let me pass along a few tips on successful scripture memory. It helps to use the buddy system. Thousands have memorized scripture alone. However, memorizing with another person often provides the needed stimulus for success. We all need encouragement in our Christian lives and this surely applies to memorizing scripture. Get together with a friend who is also memorizing the Word of God so that you can be of mutual help in learning and checking your verses.

When you memorize, don't confuse knowledge with application. Some think that Bible knowledge automatically leads to spiritual maturity. They assume that knowing more about the Bible automatically makes them better Christians. This is not necessarily true.

The Pharisees knew the Old Testament, yet their lives did not bring glory to God. The key to spiritual maturity is application of God's Word to the life by the blessed Holy Spirit of God.

It is virtually impossible to remember something if we don't concentrate on it at the beginning. So, when you are memorizing a verse, give it your undivided attention. Satan will do all he can to distract you from concentrating on the Word.

Scripture memory is one of four methods of intake of the Word into our lives. We can hear the Word; we can read it; we can study it; and, or course, we can memorize it.

Dawson Trotman, the founder of the Navigators, was a man who faithfully practiced each of these forms of intake for many years. Toward the end of his life, he said that his experience had been that the consistent practice of Scripture memory paid greater dividends than any other form of Scripture intake.

Let me encourage you to try it. I'm sure you'll like it. You will experience cleansing of life and help in temptation as you learn to write the Word of God on the table of your heart.

This vital Bible verse is just one of 60 carefully selected scriptures that are contained in The Navigators Scripture Memory course. If you want to memorize Scripture, but aren't sure what to memorize or how to get started, this is exactly what you need. The *Topical Memory System* includes memory verse cards in eight different Bible versions - NIV, KJV, NASB, NKJV, NLT, NIRV, ESV and The Message. Topics include all of the basics of the Christ-centered Spirit-filled life, sharing your faith, and growing on to maturity in your walk with God. May God bless you as you fill your life with His Word!