

# PUMPKINS OF TEMPTATION

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Text. Eph. 6:10-13.

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. The title is a little strange but you soon will get the point.
- B. Our text tells us to stand against the whiles of the devil.
- C. We need to watch - 2 Cor. 2:11 "**lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.**
- D. Satan is like a roaring lion- 1 Pet. 5:8.
- E. He uses clever (and varied) schemes to try to get us to yield to his will and thus be displeasing to God.
- F. Many times we think we can live with him and expect no harm.

1. Often its too late. We are in the clutches of sin or Satan before we know it.

2. Pumpkins of Temptation- Some ducks once found a feeding place in the reeds that grew on the edge of a quite stream. A group of boys soon laid a plan to catch them. They began by placing pumpkins in the water and letting them flat down to where the ducks were swimming. At first the ducks were nervous and flew away, but soon decided there was no harm in permitting them to float among them . Then came the second part of the plan. The boys scooped out the inside of the pumpkins and made two small holes to see through. Then placing the hollow globe over their heads, slipped quietly into the river, allowing only the orange decoys to show above the water line, they moved slowly toward their victims. Suddenly they grasped the ducks legs under the water and captured their unsuspecting prey.

3. So it is with sin today. Things that we once recognized as danger become common place and before we know it we are in the clutches of the devil.

## BODY:

### I. THERE IS THE PUMPKIN OF FAILURE TO STUDY OUR BIBLES AS WE SHOULD.

A. 2 Tim. 2:15 "Study to show thyself. . . "

1. As newborn babes desire the sincere milk- 1 Pet. 2:2.

2. After time we are to know the word- Heb. 5:12.

B. We know the need to study is there. We become busy and neglect to study.

1. At first our conscience hurts, we are concerned but after a period of non study we become complacent.

2. It is a hollowed out pumpkin.

## II. THERE IS THE PUMPKIN OF BEING UNFAITHFUL IN CHURCH ATTENDANCE.

A. Every new Christian feels the need of being close to the Lord.

B. They respect the Lord's command to not forsake the assemble- Heb. 10:24f.

C. They begin to miss a service or two on Sunday night or Wednesday, then Sunday morning.

D. Missing bothers them at first but soon they can miss and there is no concern. They are in the clutches of Satan.

## III. THERE IS THE PUMPKIN OF EVIL COMPANIONSHIP.

A. We are warned about evil companions. 1 Cor 15:33 "**Do not be deceived: Evil company corrupts good habits.**"

B. We receive fellowship and strength from Christians.

C. People are in the presence of business associates who are not spiritually minded. They drink, use bad language, are lewd, etc. 2 Cor. 6:14.

D. At first one's conscience is hurt. They feel uncomfortable. Soon they are doing the same thing.

E. This has greatly effected men/women and has broken up many homes.

## IV. THERE IS THE PUMPKIN OF FELLOWSHIP WITH FALSE RELIGIONS AND CHURCHES.

A. The Lord's church was promised and established by Christ.

1. Matt. 16:18- "I will build my Church."

2. Col. 1:18. **And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.**

3. Acts 2:

4. There is one body or church- Eph. 4:4. **There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;**

B. People that begin to have fellowship with false religious institutions are nervous and concerned at first but soon are in the clutches of Satan and accept the fact that one thing is as good as another and that anything is all right as long as one is sincere.

C. Soon they begin to accept teachings that are not in the Bible.

#### CONCLUSION:

##### A. THERE IS THE PUMPKIN OF PROCRASTINATION.

A. This is putting off until tomorrow what we ought to do today.

B. People hear the gospel and know they need to obey 2 Thess. 2:9-12.

1. Relate the Gospel. 1 Cor. 15:1-6.

2. We obey a form of this- Rom. 6:17-18.

C. People know they should become a Christian but soon lose that concern. They are caught in Satan's clutches by the pumpkin of procrastination.

D. People in the church are guilty of procrastination.

1. The devil likes to get God's people in his grasp.

2. He does not give up on those who have become Christians.