

“Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Do not err, my beloved brethren.” James 1:15-16 KJV



How is lust conceived? The answer is found in Genesis. *“When the woman SAW that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be DESIRED to make one wise, she TOOK of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.”* When we are enticed, we instinctively imagine the pleasure of our senses. God’s Word clearly indicates Eve was deceived. Why did Eve believe it was good? Was the Serpent eating it? Colorful and juicy perhaps? Told it would make her wise like God, she followed the desires of body and soul and ate the forbidden fruit to achieve what seemed a good thing. *“There is a way which SEEMETH right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of DEATH!”* It was so pleasurable she shared with Adam. It was a whole different enticement for him, because he knew better, but he was in love with Eve. His imagination ran wild with what he would lose, so instead of trusting God, he decided life wasn’t worth living without her and ate. We never fall alone; we always drag others down with us! *“No man is an island!”* Measure desire against God’s Word, and even though it causes great loss, *“Flee youthful lusts.”* Run away from the enticements that lead to sin and death. The world’s word for it is “fun”; self-gratification. *“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain (self-centered) in their imaginations, and their foolish heart (mind) was darkened. Who changed the Truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature (self included) more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections (sexual perversion).”* Some sins kill immediately while some slowly torture you to death. I’m thinking of smokers and an alcoholic brother slowly wasting away. Sin is always evident in appearance, speech, or behavior. When God’s Word is not your focus, anything else can and will assume its place! Choices determine eternal destiny; Heaven or Hell. To clear the mind of the deadly enticements of sin, fill it with Truth, day and night, *“for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have GOOD success. As he THINKETH...so is he.”* Your choices decide whether you live or die! *“He that BELIEVETH NOT is condemned already!”* Unbelief is a “NO” choice! Your eternity is your own personal choice! Heaven or Hell? Believe it or not?

Oh do not err with thoughts of sin,
For evil comes from soul within,
My inner thoughts will guide my plight,
To darkest pit or brightest Light! -CGP

You do what you think. Err in thought; err in deed. What do you think? What directs your eternal destiny? *“God has commanded men everywhere to repent.”* Repentance is obeying God’s Word. Adam and Eve damned the whole human race with a single disobedient choice! Will your choices damn or liberate you? Will they damn or liberate those following you? Will those in hell with you curse you or those in Heaven with you thank you? Where will your words and deeds lead others? You know your choices, so you know your destiny!

“But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart (mind/thoughts/soul); and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.” Matthew 15:18-20 KJV