

# The Enemy Tempts Jesus

Insights into Christ's Temptation...

Luke 4:1-13

## I. "Why was Jesus Tempted?? Why did God allow it? How could God be tempted if He cannot sin?"

A. Whenever approaching "why" questions in scripture, especially when asking "why God allows this or that?", it is always healthy to remember to take a posture of tremendous \_\_\_\_\_, and learn the lesson from Job... (**Job 42:1-6; Eccles. 5:1-2; 11:1-6**)

B. It's important to also note that God is never the \_\_\_\_\_ of temptation (**Jam. 1:13**), but here, as in Job, God uses even Satanic temptation to serve His purposes (**Job 1:6-12**). As with Job, God said "okay, I'll let you test Him, go try and see what happens".

## II. Benefits or Lessons from Jesus' Temptation:

A. **It validated the Incarnation & gave us an advocate that knows what we deal with!** Yes Jesus was fully God, but was he \_\_\_\_\_ man? It is true that God cannot be tempted, but Jesus, because he was a man, was tempted in every way in which we have been and therefore knows what we go through (**Heb. 4:14-16**).

B. **We get an idea of \_\_\_\_\_ the enemy tries to tempt us:**

1. Usually when we're worn down or tired. He attacks us in our \_\_\_\_\_ areas, not necessarily in our strengths
2. When we are isolated \_\_\_\_\_ from God's people
3. We've can open ourselves to temptation through: (a) spiritually \_\_\_\_\_ influences; (b) through compromised entertainment; (c) through anything that you and I could get enslaved to; (d) through a root of bitterness
4. Satan also shows that he loves persuading us through subtle \_\_\_\_\_ of God's Word.

C. **It put the \_\_\_\_\_ of God & His Son on display.** "You can try and get Him, if you want to waste Your time. I'll just use it to show my power, and use it against your cause, but go ahead..."

D. **We are given a strong example of how to deal with temptation-** "*It Is Written*" If Jesus, being fully God, didn't summon His own power to blast Satan away from Him, but instead used scripture, then:

1. What does that say about God's \_\_\_\_\_ of His own Word? (Wow!) (**2 Pet. 1:16-19**)
2. What does that say about what we're supposed to do when tempted? We are to use the same tool Jesus used... "*It is \_\_\_\_\_*". Thus, the importance of knowing the Word as believers (**Ps. 119:11**)

## III. Three areas of attack: (Christ responds from Deuteronomy)

A. **Satan's first angle was to get Jesus to \_\_\_\_\_ trusting in His Father's providential care** (v.1-4), which in this case meant stopping His fast and doing a quick miracle to get a bite to eat. Jesus, knowing this was a test, applied what He knew was right to this situation- "*It is written... 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every Word that flows from the mouth of God.'*" i.e., if forced to choose, it is always more important to follow God than the cravings of our appetites. This is the sin of \_\_\_\_\_

B. **Satan's second device was to persuade our Lord to grasp at worldly \_\_\_\_\_ by unlawful means** (v.5-8). "*I will give you all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me.*" Given by whom?? **Job 1:6-12** There are times when God will grant permission to Satan to do what he wants, yet only to accomplish the Lord's purpose- **Rev. 20:7-10** **The temptation was to give His soul to the devil in exchange for a cheap grasp at power. "*It is written, you shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.*"** No earthly gain is with your soul (**Matt. 16:26**). This is the sin of \_\_\_\_\_

C. **Satan's third attack was to presume upon God,** which is to push God to \_\_\_\_\_ Himself (v.9-13). "Go ahead and jump! Didn't God say His angels would catch you?" "*It is written, You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.*" i.e. we don't yell at God, "Prove it!". This is the sin of \_\_\_\_\_