

Temptations Got You Down?

Luke 4:1-13

... and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Luke 3:22

Credentials:

Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph, the son of Heli... the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God. Luke 3:23,38

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness² for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. Luke 4:1-2

Common understanding of this passage: _____?

_____!

This passage is not _____

The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." Luke 4:3

Where _____, _____

And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Deut 8:3

Where _____, _____

And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." And Jesus answered him, "It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'" Luke 4:5-8

It is the Lord your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear. Deut 6:13

And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you," and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone." Luke 4:9-11

And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Luke 4:12

"You shall not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. Deut 6:16

Where _____, _____

And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time. Luke 4:13

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Heb 4:15-16

Discussion Questions:

- What temptations do you face?
- When are you most tempted?
- How do you typically face your temptations? (accountability, try harder, spiritual disciplines, etc)
- How does trusting in Christ help you overcome your temptation?
- Why is simply knowing more scripture not enough to overcome temptation?
- Do you ever think that there are certain sins that are more palatable to God, or to yourself as a Christian?

Further study:

- Compare and contrast Gen 3, Ex 16, 17 with Luke 4. What similarities can you find? What differences? How is Jesus portrayed in contrast to those characters?
- What were the temptations faced in the Old Testament? Eg. Trust in the character of God, trust in his provision, etc. What were the temptations that Jesus faced?
- Read Hebrews 4:15-16 -What does the author of Hebrews suggest for those of us who face temptations?
- Read 1 Peter 5:8 – How does this passage alert us to ways that we will be tempted?