



Facing Temptation Through Trusting God

Luke 4:1-13
January 29, 2023

The Big Idea: Jesus faced temptations common to man. He was also tempted in ways that were uniquely a part of the fact He is God's Son. He never **gave** in. He obeyed His Father, the Scriptures, and brought glory to God in every moment of His life. Only **in Christ** can the Christian experience victory over temptations to sin.

Luke 4:1-13 (ESV)

4 And Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and **was led by the Spirit** in the wilderness ²for **forty days**, **being tempted** by the devil. And **he ate nothing** during those days. And when they were ended, **he was hungry**. ³The devil said to him, "**If you are the Son of God**, command this stone to become bread." ⁴And Jesus answered him, "**It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'**" ⁵And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶and 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. ⁷**If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.**" ⁸And Jesus answered him, "It is written,

" 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.' "

⁹And 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**, ¹⁰**for it is written,**" "He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you," ¹¹and " 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.' "

¹²And **Jesus answered him**, "It is said, '**You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.**'" ¹³And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an **opportune** time.

What We Learn from Jesus and the Bible About Winning Over Temptations:

1. By now, Jesus knows He is fully God but He faces His temptations as fully man. This is a part of the point of the "**backwards** genealogy" of Luke 3:23-38 and of the observation of 4:2 that Jesus was **hungry**.
2. The presence and power of the **Holy Spirit** in indispensable to resisting temptation, obeying God, and doing what brings Glory to the Father.
3. One of Satan's predictable strategies is to **question** or directly **contradict** what God has said.
4. The antidote to Satan's **lies** is to know the **truth** of what God has said in His Word. [Psalm 119:10-16]
5. Jesus' temptation experiences, not only in the wilderness, but throughout His life are key to our own victory over temptation.
 - God will **test** us. Satan will **tempt** us. [James 1:13]
 - Jesus, in His humanity, faced a myriad of temptations, but always chose to be faithful to His Father and obedient to the Word. He **understands** your temptations. [Hebrews 4:15] And, **His victory is your victory!**
 - God knows the **limits** of each of our ability to resist and promises there is a "**way of escape**" for any temptation. [1 Corinthians 10:13]
 - Jesus told His disciples they must "**watch and pray**" if they wanted to limit temptation. [Matthew 26:41; Galatians 5:16-17; James 4:7]
 - We must be willing to act **deliberately** and **forcefully** against our own sinful tendencies. A timid "I'll try to do better" will never be a winning strategy. [Romans 8:13]