



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. ⁷If 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," ¹⁰for 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]