

Luke's Gospel – An Inclusive Savior

Lesson Five

Introduction: Temptation is an indication of strength, not weakness.

[Luke 4:1-13].....Tempted? Sure. Succumb? Never!

vs.1-3 The Holy Spirit sends Jesus into the desert
"Forty days" intended to remind us of Moses' forty days on the mountain without food; Elijah's forty day flight to mountain of God; Israel's forty years in the wilderness
The spiritual & the physical will *meet* during a period of trial

MAIN EVENT - Jesus(Full of Holy Spirit) vs Satan(Full of Mess)

vs.3-12 Devil attacks Jesus, before his ministry is off-the-ground
Perhaps Jesus is truly struggling with how to do God's business
Temptations come in 3 areas: (1)physical and social needs; (2) religious and political loyalties; and (3)popularity
(1.)"Turn Stones to Bread" - Not only feed yourself, but will your ministry please people?
(2.)After seeing the kingdoms of the world - "All this I'll give you if you'll worship me" - Will Jesus submit to Satan in order to bring peace and order to his people?
(3.)In the highest point in the Holy City - "Throw Yourself Down" - Will Jesus win Jerusalem by miraculous deeds or his crucifixion?
-Devil uses scripture, but not all of it [read Ps. 91:9-12]
NOTE: All three temptations are "sugar-coated" with good intentions.
Temptations are rarely to do bad things, but good things; not to fall, but to rise(fleshly eyesight)
Luke's depiction of Jesus using scripture further shows Jesus' allegiance to Judaism - all three come from Deuteronomy:
(1.)"Man does not live on bread alone" - Deut. 8:3
(2.)"Worship the Lord your God and serve him only" - Deut. 6:13
(3.)"Do not put the Lord your God to the test" - Deut.6:16
-*Scripture is enough to sustain and produce faith-*
vs.13 The devil **WILL** return at opportune times