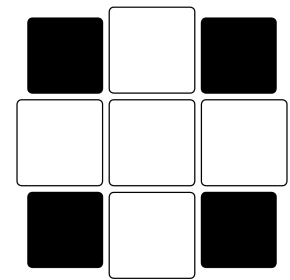


The Temptation of Jesus

Scripture: **Luke 4:1-14**

Series: **The Gospel of Luke**

Sunday, June 18, 2017



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Overview

When we stop fighting temptation and never experience victory over our sins, our immaturity is revealed—we do not understand the purpose of temptation or how we’re supposed to deal with it. As we mature, we learn that **temptation is an opportunity for us to draw near to God and find help in our time of weakness.**

Corroborating Texts

Deuteronomy 6:13, Deuteronomy 6:16, Deuteronomy 8:13, Ephesians 6:11,
1 Corinthians 10:13, Hebrews 2:18, Hebrews 4:15

Discussion Questions

1. What is the difference between temptation and testing? [temptation aims at your ruin; testing aims at proving your faith—note that an experience/circumstance could be both] When facing temptation, do you tend to draw near to God, knowing he is with you and will help you?
2. Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit prior to being led into the wilderness and tempted by the devil. This is how he withstood and resisted the devil—not out of his *divinity* but out of his *humanity*. What is the significance of this? [in addition to being filled with the Spirit, the fact that Jesus obeyed and kept the Law perfectly out of his humanity is what allows him to be our perfect substitute.]
3. Jesus was tempted to doubt God (vv. 3-4), disobey God (vv. 5-8), and prove (or test) God (vv.9-12). What can we learn from how Jesus fights each of these temptations?
4. What temptation(s) are you frequently faced with? Are you fighting them, and if so, how? If you aren’t fighting them, how can you start?
5. Not only are Jesus’ perfect works credited to us as righteousness, but Jesus’ perfect belief is credited to us as well. Have you considered that before? How does that encourage you and comfort you?
6. We actually can overcome our temptations and have real victory—but when we don’t overcome, we don’t despair because Jesus has overcome for us. Pray for one another and emphasize the importance of community in our fight against ongoing temptation.