

The Gospel according to **LUKE**

*Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.
Luke 4:1-2*

Pray as you begin your study this week.

Read Luke 4.

The temptation of Jesus is recorded in all the gospels except John. Read Matt. 4:1-11 and Mark 1:12-13 to get all the gospel writers' accounts.

In Luke 3:23-38 we read the genealogy of Jesus through Mary's line. It ends with *"the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God."* Tracing Jesus' genealogy back to Adam brings us to the garden where temptation started. Satan cunningly tricked Eve into eating the fruit which was prohibited by God and he received a curse for it.

Read Gen. 3:1-6. How did Satan tempt Eve?

When Eve was confronted, she blamed the serpent. What is the curse God lays on the serpent, specifically in verse 15?

With one temptation, mankind fell into sin. But as the curse reveals, the devil will not win in the end. He would only be able to wound Jesus...bruise His *heel*, but Jesus would give the final, mortal blow...bruise your *head*.

Earlier in Luke 3 we studied the baptism of Jesus. What happened when Jesus came out of the water according to John 1:29-34?

Not only was He led by the Spirit into the wilderness, but Luke records in verse 1, that Jesus was *filled* with the Spirit. This is very important. As believers, not only does the Spirit lead us, but He also fills us.

From the following verses, who was filled with the Spirit and what would the Spirit enable him/her to do?

Luke 1:13-17

Luke 1:41-42

Luke 1:67-75

Read Acts 1:8. What would happen to the disciples when the Holy Spirit came upon them?

This idea of the Spirit coming upon Jesus (and His disciples) is that the Spirit would never depart from Him, that He would continue to be a constant, present help for His human existence.

According to John 14:15-18, what is the promise Jesus gives to His disciples before His death and resurrection?

Reflection: Consider this for a moment. How have you seen the Spirit coming alongside you, and how have you seen His power working in you?

Right after His baptism, the Spirit doesn't steer Jesus away from testing, but walks Him straight into it. This same Spirit is at work in every believer.

Matt. 4:1 tells us why Jesus was led into the wilderness. What does Matthew say is the reason?

How long was Jesus tempted? vs. 2

What did Jesus do during this time? Matt. 4:2

What was result of this after 40 days? vs. 2

The enemy saw Jesus' hunger and preyed upon His weakness. What was the temptation he presents to Jesus? vs. 3

Jesus' response begins with 3 words. From where does He draw His answers? vs. 4a

What was His response to this first attempt to tempt Him? vs. 4b

David understood the importance of God's word and wrote the longest Psalm about it. Read the following verses from Psalm 119 and record what they say about God's word.

vs.11

vss. 25, 28

vs.105

vs. 133

Where did the devil take Jesus next? vs. 5

Digging deeper: The high mountain may have been Mount Nebo at 11,933 feet. Research the area surrounding Mount Nebo. What kingdoms would be visible from this height?

What was the 2nd temptation? vs. 6-7

We must understand, these nations were not given to him by God, but by the people themselves. What does Eph. 2:2 tell you about this?

To whom did God give the nations to according to Ps. 2:7-8 and Exod. 19:5?

What did Jesus say about His authority in Matt. 28:18?

What did the enemy want Jesus to do in vs. 7?

Is. 14:12-14 tells us about the fall of Lucifer (Satan). What does Satan say is His ambition in verses 13-14?

In reality, what is Satan's end? Is. 14:15

What was Jesus' response in verse 8?

This was a strong rebuke from Jesus. Matthew Henry in his commentary writes Jesus' response as this, "I cannot bear the mention of it. What! worship the enemy of God whom I came to serve? and of man whom I came to save? No, I will never do it."

Then we have the third temptation. Where did Satan bring Jesus? vs. 9

He asked Jesus to prove something. What was it?

And for the third time, Satan quotes scripture. What does He say to Jesus in vss. 10-11?

Satan was testing Jesus, seeing if Jesus would prove Himself as the Son of God. But Jesus didn't need to prove anything, especially to Satan. Satan was fully aware who Jesus was...Jesus knew fully well who He was.

What did Jesus say to Satan? vs. 12

What does James 1:13-14 say about this?

God can't be tempted by evil, but that didn't stop Satan from trying. Every temptation the enemy presented was evil, and Jesus used the word of God to defend against his schemes.

Because we have the word of God, and the Holy Spirit indwelling us, we too can resist his schemes. We can still fall to temptation, but God is there to aid us. What do the following verses say about temptation?

1 Cor. 10:13

Heb. 2:18

Heb. 4:15

James 1:2-4

James 1:12-16

What are our instructions to battle the enemy according to Ephesians 6:10-13?

Write out the promise in James 4:7.

The enemy can be relentless. What does Luke 4:13 say about this?