

Dealing With Evil

9-16-18

Luke 4:1 (ESV)

And Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**, was **led by the Spirit** in the wilderness!

We are looking at the book of Luke; Jesus and the Holy Spirit. In this verse we see them fully revealed! This statement is critical for every Christian because every Christian is directed to be full of the Holy Spirit and led by the Holy Spirit!

In C.3, Jesus has just been baptized by John the Baptist and received the Holy Spirit! Lesson: The presence of the Holy Spirit is necessary to deal with the evil deception of this world seen in C.4.

Luke 4:1–4 (ESV)

¹ And Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and was **led by the Spirit** in the wilderness ² for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. // ³ **The devil said** to him, “**If** you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.”

⁴ And Jesus answered him, “**It is written**, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’ ”

With this revelation of Jesus and the Holy Spirit, we also see the counter exposure of Satan and related evil. Importantly in this account, we see Satan’s method of deception and Jesus’ recognition Satan’s deception and HIS response to that deception.

The key word in Satan's first attack is the word "IF"!

#1 Temptation, Satan will have you to question God.

The devil said to Jesus, "If!"

Satan is not very original. The devil has not changed his tactics from the beginning of time. Also Satan uses the same tactics with us!

Genesis 3:1 (ESV)

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. (Satan) said to the woman, **"Did God actually say ... ?"**

Satan's first tactic is not to have us break some Law or some rule! Satan's first tactic is for us to question God! Matthew records the clearest response to Satan's question of "if"?

Matthew 4:4 (ESV)

But Jesus answered, **"It is written, " 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "**

Therefore when we are tempted to question God, we are to rely on "every word" that comes from the mouth of God. We are to our trust and depend on God relying on Scripture as Jesus did when HE quoted Deut.8:3.

#2 Temptation, Satan will promise you the world!

**This temptation really shows Satan's true colors:
SATAN WANTS TO BE WORSHIPPED!**

Luke 4:5-8 (ESV)

⁵ And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶ and 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.**" ⁸ And Jesus answered him, "**It is written,** " 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.' "

Frightening! By this temptation, we are consumed by the world and the things of the world, which brings us completely under Satan's dominion! We are to worship God and serve HIM only relying on Scripture as Jesus did when HE quoted Deut.6:13

#3 Temptation, Satan will promise you personal grandeur, power, and fame independent of God!

This temptation goes to the very heart of our behavior exalting ourselves over others.

Often this temptation will be under the guise of doing good. Satan will actually quote Scripture to complete his deception. Satan says, "It is written!"

Luke 4:9–12 (ESV)

⁹ And 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 (Do something to prove yourself),** throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ **for it is written (Satan quotes Scripture),** // “He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,” ¹² And Jesus answered him, “**It is said,** ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” **(I only do what God tells me!)**

Satan is trying to have Jesus bring about personal grandeur by HIS own efforts. To do this, Satan must misquote Scripture. Therefore Jesus corrects Satan’s deception by correctly quoting Scripture. This is clearly stated in Matthew!

Matthew 4:7 (NIV)

Jesus answered him, “**It is also written!**”

It is necessary for us to correctly know Scripture!

Satan is a defeated foe! Victory comes from Jesus!

2Cor.5:21

God made him who had no sin to be sin, so that we might be the righteousness of God.

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.