

The Temptations in the Wilderness

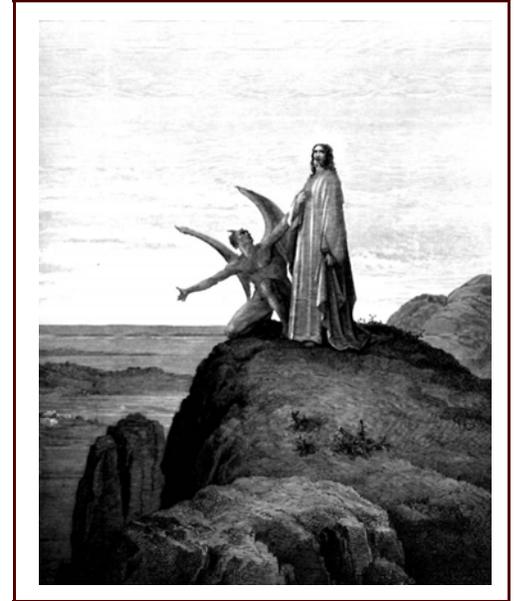
Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13

Who is the devil? The devil is that fallen angel who was thrown out of heaven and seeks his revenge by introducing and expanding sin into the world. The devil also tempted Jesus. If the devil could have successfully led Jesus to sin, then Jesus could not have been our Savior and no one else could deliver us from sin, death, and the power of the devil.

How did Jesus defeat the devil? He used the same weapon He has given us - His Word, the Bible. Thanks be to God who gives us the victory over the devil!

Prayer

Lord, open Thou my heart to hear
And through Thy Word to me draw near;
Let me Thy Word e'er pure retain,
Let me Thy child and heir remain. Amen.



The Story - Luke 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.² And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.³ Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

⁴But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

⁵Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple,⁶ and said to Him, "If You are

the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"

⁷Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'"

⁸Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.⁹ And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Away



with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

¹¹Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

Outer Aim - Jesus did not sin when the devil tempted Him.

What the Story Tells Us - Answer these questions about the lesson. The Bible reference in () parentheses will help you.

1. Where did the Spirit lead Jesus? (Mt. 4:1) _____
2. Why did the Spirit lead Jesus there? (1) _____
3. What did Jesus do for forty days and nights? (2) _____
4. How did Jesus feel after fasting for so long? (2) _____
5. What is the first temptation we read about? (3) _____
6. What did Jesus say to Satan? (4) _____
7. Where did Satan then take Jesus? (5) _____
8. How did Satan tempt Jesus here? (6) _____
9. What did Satan use in his temptation? (6) _____
10. What did Jesus say to Satan? (7) _____
11. Where did Satan take Jesus in verse 8? _____
12. What did Satan show Jesus? (8) _____
13. How did Satan now tempt Jesus? (9) _____
14. What did Jesus say to this? (10) _____
15. Who came to help Jesus after Satan left? (11) _____

What God's Word Tells Us - Discuss how each of the following is a good way to deal with temptation.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| a) God's Word | d) Avoiding people or places which may bring temptation |
| b) Prayer | e) Other... |
| c) Christian advice | |

Your Turn - Circle the correct letter for each sentence below.

1. Jesus was led into the wilderness by the _____. a) angels b) devil c) Spirit
2. Jesus fasted _____ days and nights. a) twenty b) forty c) sixty
3. Satan tempted Jesus to serve Himself by turning stones into _____. a) bread
b) rocks c) a bed
4. Satan tempted Jesus to jump off the temple by quoting the _____. a) Bible
b) chief priests c) scribes
5. Satan offered Jesus the world if He would _____ him. a) love b) save
c) worship

Word Find - Find the following words in the puzzle below

WILDERNESS
TEMPTATION

KINGDOMS
MOUNTAIN
HUNGER

BREAD
FORTY

FASTED
SAVIOR
SATAN

PINNACLE
STONES

A M N B V C F G T R R R E S W Q W E
 E R K H H H L J J J H E W T D F E G
 U P I N N A C L E Y T T Y O E R T Y
 R T N T T E M P T A T I O N T Y R T
 Q Q G R W E O Q K F L I U E T Y S Q
 K J D W X Z U X B O R E D S A T A N
 F Y O R H U N G E R X C V B N M V L
 O A M P I U T T R T E E Q Q W X I Z
 D F S I L T A X E Y T A G H U K O K
 L I I T W A I Z X C W E D R T Y R L
 W I L D E R N E S S L K J U Y H T G
 F O R D E D H I S O R S E O R H L X

Passages

Matthew 26:41 - "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

1 Peter 5:8 - "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

Hebrews 4:15 - "(Jesus) was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin."

Hymn - TLH 446 v. 1, 5, 6

Rise, my soul, to watch and pray,
From thy sleep awaken;
Be not by the evil day
Unawares o'ertaken.
For the Foe, well we know,
Oft his harvest reapeth
While the Christian sleepeth.

But while watching, also pray
To the Lord unceasing.
He will free thee, be thy Stay,
Strength and faith increasing.
O Lord, bless in distress
And let nothing swerve me
From the will to serve Thee.

Therefore let us watch and pray, knowing He will hear us
As we see from day to day dangers ever near us,
And the end doth impend —
Our redemption neareth when the Lord appeareth.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

Even as we pray in the Lord's Prayer, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil," so deliver us from temptation and evil. Strengthen our faith and increase our knowledge of Your Word that we, by Your Grace, may overcome the Devil through Jesus' victory for us. Forgive us where we have fallen. We pray, believing in the name of Jesus our victorious Savior, Amen.