

Who is Jesus? – Attacked!

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Luke 4:1-13

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Who is Jesus:

He is God... the 2nd person of the Trinity... in unity with the Father and Holy Spirit, co-equal and co-eternal with them.

As a man, Jesus is relying upon the Holy Spirit's work in His life to guide and guard, to encourage and empower... He is our example...

Note: if Jesus were to sin, His potential as a "sinless sacrifice" to reconcile us to God would be eliminated...

Who is the Devil (false accuser, slanderer):

AKA Satan (adversary) and Lucifer

He was created in perfection and was holy... until He wasn't.

Ezekiel 28:14-16 "...you were blameless in your ways until wickedness was found in you."

Isaiah 14:12-14 "...I will make myself like the Most High."

Note: A third of the angels "fell" with him (Rev 9:1, Heb 12:22 and Rev 12:3-9)

Satan opposes God and all that brings God glory but he is NOT God's opposite.

I John 2:13-14; 3:12 and 5:18-19: "evil one"

John 8:44: "a murderer..."; "no truth in him"; "he is a liar and the father of liars."

2 Cor 11:14 he "*disguises himself as an angel of light.*"

1 Peter 5:8 –our "*adversary the Devil... prowling around like a roaring lion...*"

Note: Jesus is not unique in His opportunity to be "full of the Holy Spirit."

Eph 5:18 - "be being filled"

SPOILER ALERT!, Heb 4:15 Jesus "*has been tested in every way as we are, yet without sin*"

I John 2:16 speaks of "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of one's lifestyle"...

Temptation #1

Deut 8:3 - "bread isn't everything"

Don't just pursue what "your body wants" – know what God says and do what He has called you to do...

Temptation #2

The REAL issue in this temptation – as in all temptations – is not what one supposedly would get, but what one would have to give...

Deut 6:13

Don't pursue what your eyes can see/what your "mind" can imagine, no matter how pleasant or seemingly advantageous... pursue God; worship Him only.

Temptation #3:

Psalm 91

Deut 6:16

No argument; no reasoning. Just a statement of understanding from Scripture...

Don't pursue what your heart (ego) wants and so test God; wait on Him...

LESSONS FROM THE MESSAGE:

1. Jesus sets an example for us to follow
 - a. Jesus was "full of the Holy Spirit"
 - b. Jesus was willing to wait on God's plan
 - c. Jesus didn't argue about the temptations but relied on applied Scripture
 - i. God's Word is better than bread.
 - ii. God's worship is the only appropriate worship.
 - iii. God must not be tested.
2. Satan is a real and powerful enemy
 - a. He should neither be underestimated nor overestimated.
 - b. He is a pretender, a counterfeiter... a liar.
 - c. He has "tipped his hand" about how he tempts us and Scripture has identified where we are at risk: (from 1 John 2:16)
 - i. Lust of flesh – physical needs/desires magnified
 - ii. Lust of the eyes – desire of things
 - iii. Pride of one's lifestyle – desire for recognition/prestige

Readings during the Lord's Supper:

Hebrews 12:1-2

Galatians 5:16-17

Galatians 5:24-25

John 16:33

1 John 4: 4b

James 4:7-8

Ephesians 6:10-12

Hebrews 4:14-16