



Temptation of Jesus/Temptation

9th Confirmation Class Handout

READ LUKE 4:1-15

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3 The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' 4 Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone." '

5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.'

8 Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." '

9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you", 11 and

"On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '

12 Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." '

13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from Jesus until an opportune time.

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

- The word, "Satan" is an untranslated word. It comes directly from Hebrew. It means: An adversary.
- The word "devil" parallels the Greek word diabolis, which means "divider." It is often used in scripture interchangeably with "Satan."
- Both in this story and in the story with Adam and Eve, Satan/the devil takes a physical form. This could be true. Another possibility is that these physical representations are a storytelling device to help identify "voices" in our heads.
- The word "temptation" is interchangeable in scripture with the word "test." A helpful way to think of temptation is to think of it as motivation(s) that makes the choice to not choose God seem attractive.

CHALLENGE of the Week

What are some things that you have trouble saying "no" to, even though you want to or think you should say no to?