

Investigating Jesus

The Temptation of Jesus

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¹ Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."

⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'"

⁵ The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷ If you worship me, it will all be yours."

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

⁹ The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. ¹⁰ For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; ¹¹ they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"

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

¹³ When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. **Luke 4:1-13, NIV**

How does Jesus prepare me for the tests of life?

¹ Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. **Luke 4:1-2, NIV**

Any relationship will always have tests.

Jesus passed his test perfectly.

³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."

⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'" **Luke 4:3-4, NIV**

Test #1: Let your appetite control you.

Answer: Let God and his Word sustain you.

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⁸ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" **Luke 3:21-22, NIV**

Test #2: Always want more.

Answer: A relationship with the Lord is enough.

⁹ The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here.” ¹⁰ For it is written: “He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; ¹¹ they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.” ¹² Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” **Luke 3:9-12, NIV**

Test #3: Make God serve you.

Answer: Don’t try to manipulate God.

¹³ When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. **Luke 4:13, NIV**

The testing never truly stops.

How does Jesus prepare me for temptation?

- **He passed my test for me.**
- **He helps me identify temptation.**
- **He helps me respond to temptation.**
- **He reveals the lies of temptation.**

¹⁵ This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most. **Hebrews 4:15-16, NLT**

MEMORY VERSE

⁸ Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” **Luke 4:8, NIV**

My next step:

Jesus has overcome temptation for me. He has beaten the devil. I will also strive to recognize and fight temptation in my life.

What’s your next step?

Mark it on your connection card.

Group Questions

¹⁶ For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷ The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever. **1 John 2:16-17, NIV**

How is this verse a good summary of the temptation that Jesus faced and the temptations we face?

Read Hebrews 4:15-16. Explain how Jesus’ victory over temptation gives you confidence and hope as you battle temptation.

The devil waited for an opportune time to tempt Jesus. When do you think this opportune temptation time was in Jesus’ life?

When is an opportune time that you (or anyone else) can be tempted? How can you prepare for those times?