

## Luke 4 pt 1

### Luke 4: 1-13

Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.

<sup>3</sup> And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."

<sup>4</sup> But Jesus answered him, saying, "**It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'**"

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for *this* has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. <sup>7</sup> Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours."

<sup>8</sup> And Jesus answered and said to him, "**Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.'**"

<sup>9</sup> Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. <sup>10</sup> For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you,' <sup>11</sup> and, 'In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"

<sup>12</sup> And Jesus answered and said to him, "**It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'**" <sup>13</sup> Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

1. Luke is drawing our attention to Jesus as the Son of Man
  - a. As the picture of man was marred by sin and rebellion, Jesus came and restored it
  - b. Jesus is the Son of God, He is also the Son of Man

2. Being filled with the Holy Spirit, He's led to the wilderness
3. He doesn't go from the Father declaring "This is My Beloved Son" into a glorious ministry where many are touched and changed
4. Jesus is led into the dry wilderness by the Holy Spirit
5. **Here is a contrast of Jesus & Adam**
  - a. Adam lived perfect and beautiful environment in the garden
    - i. **Jesus** in a barren forsaken land
  - b. Adam ate freely of all things
    - i. **Jesus** had nothing to eat for 40 days
  - c. Adam was physically strong
    - i. **Jesus** was on the verge of death
  - d. Adam failed in the temptation
    - i. **Jesus** took the full attack and was victorious
6. He's led to the wilderness to conquer temptation
  - a. The Word tempted (**Pereizo**) can either be a positive or negative temptation.
    - i. God's view point, it is a test
    - ii. Satan's, it is a temptation
    - iii. If you really want to know what is really down in the heart of a person, they must be put through a test
    - iv. When a person gets a new car, phone... they normal put it to the test

1. To see if it can really do what the manufacturer says it can
- b. In this experience, we see what God intends for His children when we go through a wilderness
  - i. **Deut 8:2-3** And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you *and* test you, to know what *was* in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. <sup>3</sup> So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every *word* that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord
  - ii. If they passed that test, they would have entered the promised land much sooner
- c. They obviously failed that test

7. **Luke tells us that after the Father confirms the Son, the Son is now put to the test**

- a. Why would Jesus go through this test?
- b. If Jesus is going to save me from sin, I need to know that He Himself can conquer sin
- c. He does more than a declare God's Word to us, He demonstrates it

8. There He fasted for 40 days

- a. As Moses fasted for 40 days (**Exodus 34:28**)
- b. Elijah Fasted for 40 days (**1 Kings 19:8**)

9. **Why did Jesus fast?**

- a. He's showing us how to rely on the Father in every situation
- b. He doesn't require we do anything that He hasn't already done Himself
  - i. He leads us by example
  - ii. As we fast, Jesus can relate to us
- c. Fasting is a discipline used in scripture for various reasons
  - i. People fasted as they mourned (**Ezra 10:6**)
  - ii. Some fasted as an act of repentance (**Isaiah 58:3**)
  - iii. Others fasted as a dependence on the Lord
    - 1. Like Paul & Barnabas for ministry (**Acts 14:23**)
  - iv. Fasting is not a spiritual or sanctified diet
    - 1. Neither is it a way to twist God's arm to get what you want

2. It's a way to tune out the flesh and tune into the Spirit—to say no in order to say yes (**Heitzig**)

## 10. **Jesus is led into the wilderness**

a. Wilderness, a dry and desolate place among beasts and scorpions that will test anyone's true resolve

11. After the 40 days, the devil said to Him "**since** you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."

a. **It's usually after our greatest victory that Satan hits us with the greatest attacks**

b. **He about to attack in the 3 areas**

- i. **Unbelief** - choosing not to believe God's goodness
- ii. **Compromise** - Give a little to get more quickly
- iii. **Presumption** - Find a verse to suit your needs and make it happen

c. One can imagine how hungry Jesus was after 40 days

d. **Showing His true humanity**

- i. There is nothing wrong with eating bread
- ii. This is a subtle attack on Jesus
- iii. **Since** You are the Son of God... and You are hungry
- iv. Is this any way for the perfect Son of God to be?

- v. This temptation was not simply in eating, it was in suggesting that His hunger is not compatible with being the Son of God
  - vi. It was an attack to get Jesus to **doubt** the **providence of God the Father**
- e. A stone to bread doesn't talk about bread being evil or eating is wrong. It say's God's way is too hard. [You] have an obvious need that God is either ignoring or doesn't care [about].... He doesn't really understand. You need to make something happen. Go ahead and take the food you crave and need. It's your right to get it..(**McArthur**)
- f. Use your power, influence, gifting to fill the desire you have.
- g. After all, look at all You've been through
- i. Born in a stable
  - ii. Escaping death from Herod
  - iii. Living in a poor town to poor parents
  - iv. No one even knows you exist
  - v. Now You are starving to death
  - vi. Is that fitting for the Son of God?
12. He wanted to destroy the Son's confidence in the Father
- a. Turn this stone to bread
    - i. Use Your own strength and power
13. So the implication here is to say, look, if God really loved You, You wouldn't be hungry. How much does God really love You? You've

waited all this time in Nazareth, You had Your moment ...at the Jordan river at Your baptism, and now for forty days You've been out here in this God-forsaken place and You've been in conflict with the devil and You've had nothing to eat for forty days and now You're very hungry and God hasn't provided anything for You. So You think You can trust God's love? Do You think that's an evidence that God really loves You? Maybe God doesn't love You as much as You think He ...[does].

14. This is exactly the... formula that Satan used with Eve... What Satan was saying to Eve in the Garden is, "You mean to tell me there's a tree that has fruit on it and God doesn't want you to have it?"
  - a. Well if God really loved you, why would He restrict you? God probably isn't as loving as you think He is. He's probably not as kind as you think He is. He's probably not as good as you think He is or He wouldn't... restrict you from eating...  
**(MacArthur)**
15. You could even say that Satan could have used the argument, how come the wicked prospered in the wilderness, and You're suffering and You're the righteous? And by the way, didn't God say He'd rain down bread miraculously on His people and didn't He do it for them in the wilderness?
16. And didn't Isaiah say that God's people would never hunger and thirst? And didn't the psalmist say God always fills the hungry with what is good, Psalm 107, and doesn't the psalmist say he'd never seen God's people begging for bread?
17. ... it's time for You to act on Your own because I don't think God is as good to You as You might have thought He is, or You wouldn't be in this situation

18. We also hear similar things saying, God is not paying attention. He doesn't care. You need to make something happen with your power

- a. Look at your upbringing - your parents
- b. Look at some of the challenges you faced growing up
- c. See how you've been in need?
- d. People don't recognize your gifting
- e. You are starving

f. Is that fitting for a child of God?

g. **It's the same game he plays with all of us**

h. **Its amplified in the wilderness**

19. You'll notice that the temptations we face have to do with our gifts and strengths not so much with our weaknesses.

- a. Someone with a gift to communicate & paint word pictures, can use it to manipulate others
- b. Those who are gifted in business, are tempted use their influence in less than ethical ways
- c. Those gifted in spiritual gifts tend to exalt themselves above others.
- d. So it's easy to see how when you're in a wilderness and hungry, giving in to temptation can be easy
  - i. Just make it happen...

- ii. You have an obvious need and it's not being met, so make it happen

e. **To give into temptation would be to distrust God**

f. **Our greatest sin is unbelief - doubting the providential care of God**

20. **Jesus replies, It is written...**

- a. He shows us how to overcome temptation
  - i. By turning on the light on the darkness
  - ii. By using the Sword of the Spirit to cut through all the cobwebs of lies
- b. He's not just quoting scripture.
  - i. He knows the truth and power of God's Word
  - ii. I don't live because of bread; I live because God said to me live.
- c. Every fiber of my being is held together by Him and if He said live, I will live.

21. This teaches us that we don't need to complain or manipulate any situation for our benefit (business, school, family) because then we'd be living by bread alone...

- a. But to trust in the goodness of God who will bring us what we need at the exact moment

**22. Then the devil takes him to a high mountain and shows Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment**

23. "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for *this* has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. <sup>7</sup> Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours."

- a. Bow down to get what you want quickly.
- b. Escape the pain and have the result.

24. Satan knows the Old Testament. He knows the Messiah is going to die. He knows the Messiah is going to be a sacrifice for sin. He understands the sacrificial system. He knows where all the lambs are pointed to and he's saying to the Son, "You don't like being out here in the wilderness forty days, You don't like being out here deprived, You don't like being out here without any food, wait till You see what is to come.

- a. How do You feel about the future suffering that You're going to have to endure? How do You feel about that, things that are yet to come that You haven't even experienced that are prophesied in the Old Testament?"

25. ... So he's saying You can miss the cross if You want, You can miss all that further humiliation, You can miss ... Psalm 22, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" that's going to come. You can miss all of that, I'm telling You, You can bypass the whole thing, all You have to do is recognize that I own all the kingdoms of the

world and I will give them to You... if You worship me. Just fall down and worship Me. And you can skip the cross and go right to the crown...

- a. **Compromise** - Give a little to get more quickly
- b. You want to be their king; bow down to me, avoid the cross and I'll give you all of it
- c. John 6, Jesus was tempted with this again by the people

26. In the same way, we're tempted to fulfill our ambition our own way

27. Whatever you aspire towards today

- a. Whatever dream or plan you know that God has for you
  - i. Business
  - ii. Ministry...
    1. **A little compromise will speed up the process**
    2. Bow down and worship me.
    3. Follow the world's pattern and I'll give it all to you.
    4. Take this shortcut, it's much easier
    5. John 18:11 "... **Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?**"
    6. There is a process designed by God for me
      - a. My role is to trust Him and go through it

28. **There is no easy road to live victoriously**

a. **He who wants to find his life must lose it. (Luke 9:24)**

b. We must be crucified with Christ in order to live.

29. **"Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.'** " (Deut 6:13)

a. **Whatever I bow down to, I end up worshipping**

b. **If I compromise with sin, it becomes my master**

30. Again, it is written

31. Notice that there isn't much dialogue going on

32. **Jesus already purposed in His heart to trust God and take no shortcuts in the process**

a. Once the Word is spoken in faith, that round is done

**33. In the final round, the Devil quotes scripture right back at Jesus and challenges Him to throw Himself from the top of the temple to make a grand entrance**

34. Since Jesus is well versed in scripture and it's an obvious strength, the enemy will challenge that area as well

- a. Here, he's quoting scripture to Jesus (Psalm 91:11 For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. <sup>12</sup> In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.)
- b. 'He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you,' <sup>11</sup> and, 'In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"
- c. It's subtle, but leaving out **in all your ways** can change the meaning
  - i. Jesus' ways are to follow after the plan of God, not His own plan
  - ii. Taking a leap off the cliff is not a leap of faith
  - iii. When someone takes scripture out of context and builds an argument, he's in danger of presumption
- d. **Presumption** - Finding a verse to suit your needs and make it happen
- e. First, he challenges Jesus to have God prove His divine love and divine wisdom
- f. Now, he's saying You have a need that people recognize who you are.
- g. Jumping off the cliff would be sensational and draw a crowd.

35. **This is a problem because;**

- a. It draws attention to the person, not God

- b. It requires a more sensational act tomorrow as it quickly becomes boring

36. This was never God's will for Christ.

37. **The gospel is not based on sensationalism, but Calvary**

38. This stunt would be **presumption**.

39. **Numbers 14:44** But they presumed to go up to the mountaintop. Nevertheless, neither the ark of the covenant of the LORD nor Moses departed from the camp

40. **Psalm 19:13** Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression.

- a. I will not actively or passively put God to the test to prove anything.

41. We don't walk off of buildings

- a. **We may put God to the test by expecting Him to respond a certain way to my situation**

- b. **This is trying to control God into doing my will**

42. We walk by faith

- a. Faith is acting on the known will of God

43. The temptation here is to act independently from the Father's will

44. A few lessons from this passage, Satan's strategy;

- a. he will tempt us to distrust the love of God;

- b. he will tempt us to distrust the plan of God and thus to compromise with sin to get what we think we need and deserve and want.
- c. And then he will tempt us to presume. If we're going to say no, I trust God, no, I want to follow God, then he'll get us to presume on God and act foolishly out of pride and self-will. Presuming on God's grace we do things foolishly. That's his strategy.

45. **Notice how Jesus defeated Satan; By quoting Scripture.**

- a. Be committed to obey God's Word. First of all, you have to know God's Word and you have to obey God's Word.
  - i. **Know the Scripture.**
- b. Not only know it in your head, know it in your heart and be committed to live it.
- c. When Satan challenges your loyalty to God and your confidence in God's love and your confidence in God's plan, ...[your] anchor ... is your knowledge of the Word of God and your devotion to obey it.

46. **It is written**

47. We look at Jesus because we know He's been there, and we know He's wise enough to show us the way out.
- a. **Hebrews 2:18**, "For in that He Himself was tempted, He is able to help those that are tempted

48. The story closes with the statement that when Jesus had secured his victory the Devil “departed from him for a season.” The life of faith is a life of repeated moral conflicts, but victory is assured to those who trust in the goodness and power and wisdom of God.  
(**Erdman**)