

The Gospel of Luke

Lesson 07

Matthew, Mark and Luke record the temptation of Jesus by the devil while also noting that the Spirit of God led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted prior to beginning His public ministry. In the previous lesson, we learned that while God does not tempt anyone and cannot be tempted, He does test the hearts of men. Jesus passed His tests, responding to Satan's temptations by speaking aloud specific Scriptures with absolute trust in them.

In similar fashion, we too are to believe God, not the lies of the serpent as did Adam and Eve. Like Jesus, we are to fully trust the promises of God by quoting them appropriately to defend ourselves against dangerous attacks. The apostle Paul exhorts us to put on the full armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-20) while James instructs us to submit to God and resist the devil (James 4:7) so that he will flee from us.

As you begin this lesson, ask God for insight, wisdom and courage to withstand the wiles of the devil. Before answering the questions, ask the Lord for help to understand His Word so that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus of Nazareth, who is the Christ, the Son of Man and Son of God.

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

1. Read Luke 4:14-15.
 - A. Where did Jesus go after His temptation by Satan and testing by His Father?

B. With what kind of power did He return? Considering what you know about Jesus' birth and time of temptation and testing in the desert, why is this important? What should we draw from His example?

C. What did Jesus do?

D. What resulted from His going to their synagogues?

E. How was Jesus generally regarded by the people at this point in His ministry?

2. Read Luke 4:16-22.

A. Where did Jesus go after traveling in and around Galilee?

B. From verse 16, Matthew 2:19-23 and John 1:43-51, what is significant about this place?

3. What did Jesus customarily do on the Sabbath?

4. According to Hebrews 10:25:
 - A. What are we to do customarily?
 - B. Why?
 - C. According to Isaiah 61:2, what is to be one of the characteristics of this day?

4. From Luke 4:16-22:
 - A. What did Jesus stand up to do?
 - B. What was handed to Him?
 - C. Comparing what He read, as recorded in Luke 4:18-19, with Isaiah 61:1-2, what do you notice?
 - D. What is significant about where He stopped reading? What implications do you draw for the age in which we live?

E. Refer back to Luke 1:67-75, 2:8-11 and 25-32. What do you think Jesus means when He says, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing”?

F. From verse 22, what was the reaction to Jesus’ proclamation?

6. Read Luke 4:23-30.

A. What does Jesus say to the people in the synagogue?

B. What is His point?

C. Why do you think Jesus says what He does?

D. How do the people react?

E. What do they do?

F. Why do you think the people are so quick to change their attitude toward Jesus from approval to anger and rage?

G. How does Jesus escape? Does this seem unusual to you? If so, how?