

## THE TEMPTATION OF CHRIST

8/19/23

- Today – Opportunity to give a Sermon
- Title – “The Temptation of Christ”
- The account is found in both Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-12

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Matt. 4:1	to be tempted by the devil
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· “tempted”</li><li>· “peirazo” – (Strong’s #3985) – verb to test, tempt; to try to trap; to examine (oneself)</li><li>· “peirasmos” – (Strong’s #3986) – noun test, trial, temptation</li><li>· “ekpeirazo” – (Strong’s #1598) – verb to test, put to a test, try, tempt only 4 times</li></ul>
Matt. 4:7	it is written – “you shall not tempt the Lord your God” – (Deut. 6:16)
Luke 4:12	it has been said – “you shall not tempt the Lord your God” – (Deut. 6:16)
Luke 10:25	a certain lawyer stood up and tempted (NKJ–tested) Him
1 Cor. 10:9	nor let us tempt Christ, as some also tempted (and destroyed by serpents)

Strong’s Concordance: “The difference between a test and a temptation is found in the tester’s motivations and expectations. The devil tempts that the believer might fail God’s standards of faith and so sin. God tests that He might determine and sharpen true character, with no focus on making the believer fail.”

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· The Father does not tempt with evil</li></ul>
James 1:12	blessed is the man who endures temptation (#3986)
13	let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted by God – for God cannot be tempted by evil – nor does He Himself tempt anyone
14	each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed
Isaiah 45:7	create peace and calamity
Matt. 4:1	tempted by the devil
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Positive promises from God – to escape temptation</li></ul>
1 Cor. 10:13	temptation – way of escape
Rev. 3:10	will keep you from the hour of temptation

- Now – the 3 temptations
  - Notice 1 John 2:16
- 1 John 2:16            lust of the flesh – lust of the eyes – pride of life
- Lust of the flesh?
- Matt. 4:3              command that the stones become bread  
                               (lust of the flesh)  
                                      not exorbitant – not flashy – not exotic – merely bread  
                                      but – personal – could be viewed as selfish
- Pride of life?
- Matt. 4:6              throw yourself down – and be caught (protected and saved)  
                               (pride of life)  
                                      you are special – you are pampered
- Lust of the eyes?
- Matt. 4:8-9            see the suffering – end it now  
                               (lust of the eyes)  
                                      playing on emotion – feeling sorry for people

1.     The devil set a subtle tone – to control  
          Set the terms, narrative, ground rules, conditions, etc.  
          Matt.4:3 and Matt. 4:6  
          “If you are the Son of God.....”  
          Not “since you are the Son of God.....”
2.     The devil had an “end game” – in an attempt to close the deal  
          The devil played upon – Christ’s nature & Christ’s kindness & Christ’s love  
          Building toward the message – “We can end this suffering now”
3.     The devil finished with his true motive  
          Matt. 4:9 – “fall down and worship me”
4.     The devil could only offer deliverance – but the devil could not deliver on the promise
5.     The Son of God did not take the easy way out – the Son of God fulfilled His purpose –  
          the Son of God listened to the Father