

JESUS IN THE WILDERNESS

Luke 4:1-13

Tonight we'll look at and learn from Christ's temptations in the wilderness

I. AN APPEAL TO INDEPENDENCE (3-4)

A. THE TEMPTATION

1. Take matters into your own hands
2. Satisfying a natural desire by improper means.
3. Taking orders or listening to suggestions from the devil [slanderer, liar ...]

B. THE RESPONSE - Deut. 8:3

1. Man's Frailty
 - a. Believing that he lives by having bread
 - b. The reality is that he lives by having God
2. God's Provision
 - Jesus indicated an assurance that He would not die in the wilderness for this was not God's will.

C. AN APPLICATION

1. It is OK to sin in order to meet a basic human need ... like food
2. The lesson certainly leans toward not sinning and doing so would be wrong ...
.... always, no matter the scenario!

II. AN APPEAL TO EASE (5-8)

A. THE TEMPTATION

1. One little sin will make everything easier (v.7)
2. A Kingdom without the cross (The cross is unimportant or insignificant)
3. You can be in control

B. THE RESPONSE - Deut. 6:13

1. Command Satan!
 - You can and should go on the offensive when He seeks to lure you away
2. Commit to God
 - a. Acknowledge God Alone
 - b. Serve God Alone

Over please >

C. AN APPLICATION

1. To what idol will you bow to gain an advantage? - Your work idol, your family idol ...
2. Be careful of an appeal that offers you so much for so little ... there are always stings attached > Exp: Eve in the Garden of Eden - Gen. 3:5
3. How many people have fallen taking what they thought was the easy way out?

III. AN APPEAL TO IMPULSIVENESS (9-12)

A. THE TEMPTATION

1. Make God Prove Himself
2. Intimidation
3. The Misuse of Scripture

B. THE RESPONSE - Deut. 6:16

- God must be trusted without tempting or testing Him

C. AN APPLICATION

1. It doesn't take drama to know that God is there
2. We need to trust God without seeing Him - Heb. 11:6

IV. AN APPEAL TO CONSIDERATION [Practical Pointers]

A. EVEN WHEN SPIRIT- LED, TEMPTATIONS CAN COME - Luke 4:1-2

- God does not tempt us to evil (James 1:13) but does allow us to be tempted (I Cor. 10:13)

B. NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF SCRIPTURE - Psalm 119:9-11

- Christ effectively used Scripture to overcome temptation

C. BE WARY OF A WILEY DEVIL - I Peter 5:8

1. He will attack us at our weakest and most vulnerable times
2. Don't think one victory guarantees another

CONCLUSION:

May God give us success as we follow the example of Jesus in resisting temptation.

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