

Wrestling with the enemy Matt 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13

(the following italics are supplied from Luke 4, where it differs from Matt 4)

Matt 4:1 Then was Jesus *(being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan)* led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. *(Being forty days tempted of the devil)* 2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He was afterward hungered. 3 And when the tempter came to Him, he said, If you be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. 4 But He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. *(next 2 tests in different order)* 5 Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, and set Him on a pinnacle of the temple, 6 And said unto Him, If you be the Son of God, cast yourself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning you: and in their hands they shall bear you up, lest at any time you dash your foot against a stone. 7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, You shalt not tempt the Lord your God. 8 Again, the devil took Him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; 9 And said unto Him, All these things will I give you, if you will fall down and worship me. 10 Then said Jesus unto him, Get you hence, Satan: for it is written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve. 11 Then the devil left him *(departed from him for a season)*, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

I. All authority (power, jurisdiction) belongs to Jesus

Eph 1:21 Far above all

1. Jesus has appointed His people with authority in Him to overcome the enemy

Mark 6:7 And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits; (Ac 5:16; 8:7; 16:18)

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Jas 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2. Jesus was tempted---- and overcame ALL

Heb 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Believe the truth

Be yielded to the truth

Confess the truth

3. Sword of the Spirit----“It is written”- 3 times used accurately (v.4, 7, 10)

II. Victory over the 3 primary areas of human vulnerability

1Jo 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

Test 1: Use your resources in selfish and independent way—Think and live only for yourself (lust- hunger)

Joh 5:19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do: for whatsoever things He does, these also does the Son likewise.

There is more to life than satisfying temporal desires—life is about truth (God’s Word)

Test 2: Expect (demand) special treatment (pride)

The liar’s “it is written” is twisted to force a false conclusion

We don’t demand (test) God to do anything

Test 3: Look at what you could have—don’t you want it (lust of the eyes) Only a small price to pay

GET LOST! I will not give anyone what is God’s alone.
the devil will flee

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Be yielded to the truth

Confess the truth