

The Temptation of Christ

Luke 4

"¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil." —Luke 4

How Satan Tempts Us

In 2 Corinthians, the Apostle Paul warns us that Satan has several devices for attacking believers:

Satan BURDENS the consciences of believers who have sinned. (2 Co. 2)

Satan BLINDS the minds of unbelievers (2 Co. 4)

Satan BEGUILES the minds of believers (2 Co. 11)

Satan BUFFETS the bodies of believers (2 Co. 12)

How God Prepares Us

In Luke's Gospel, however, we see we have at our disposal the same resources Jesus used when He faced and defeated Satan:

Prayer (Luke 3:22)

The Father's Love (3:23)

The Power of the Holy Spirit (4:1)

The Word of God

APPLICATION: Today I will

For Thought and Discussion

Read James 1:1-8, 13-17. Temptation is Satan's weapon to defeat us, but it can become God's tool to build us. Have you recently struggled with an area of temptation in your life: spending money you don't have; thinking impure or improper thoughts about someone else; improperly using the power entrusted to you; not using the gifts God has given to you for His glory? Think about these or other temptations and how God might use those struggles to grow you up in faith. Where do you see Him working? What would you say to someone who was being tempted in something and sought your counsel for help?