

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible
Current Book: The Gospel According to Mark – Message 7

2015 VISION: Redeem the Time!

Scriptures for Today: Mark 1:12-13 (continued)

Title of Today's Message: Jesus Christ the Obedient Servant – our pattern in temptation! (Part 3)

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we continued our study of the temptations of Satan toward our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw the devil use the **same approach** he used when he tempted Eve in the garden (Gen 3). When the devil tempted Job, he used the same pattern (Job 1). The first temptation was **the lust of the FLESH**. The second temptation was **the lust of the EYES**. Today, we will look at **the third temptation – the PRIDE of life**. And, we will learn how this last temptation is possibly **the most abominable offense toward God** of all. It is the desire to be **SOMEBODY** in this God-forsaken world. Although Jesus Christ was God, He became a “nobody” in this world’s eye (Phil 2) that we might have peace with God. At the end of our service, we will have the opportunity to **remember** our Lord’s great sacrifice for us through **Communion**. How much sweeter will that time be, if we will obey His Word and **repent of our foolish desire to have the approval of this world!**

PREACHING NOTES

1. Jesus was **TEMPTED** of **Satan** in the wilderness – **yet without sin**. 1:13

- ✓ Satan tempted Jesus with the **PRIDE of life** ... (desiring praise and honor; flattery to the **EAR**)
Matthew 4:5-7; Proverbs 16:5, 16-17; 21:4; Isaiah 14:11-15; Jeremiah 48:29; James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5

Matthew 4:5-6 – Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and **setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple**, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, **cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up**, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Consider the devil’s worldly “pride of life” temptations toward Eve...

The devil’s tactic:

Genesis 3:4-5 – And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye shall not surely die**: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and **ye shall be as gods**, knowing good and evil.

The woman’s fall:

Genesis 3:6 – And **when the woman saw** ... and a tree **to be desired to make one wise, she took** of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

NOTE The goal of this temptation is to get the children of God to desire to be “*their own god*” and in their pride to **care more about what the world thinks** than God. Often, **education** is prioritized, **career** is coveted over the work of the Lord, and **promotion** is prized above faithfulness. By desiring to be “*somebody special*” in the eyes of the world, the children of God forget about the glory of God and “*the pride of life*” becomes their “*reason for being*” as they **stop witnessing and making disciples**.

Jesus used this verse to defeat the pride-centered worldly temptation...

Matthew 4:7 – Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

Deuteronomy 6:6 – Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, as ye tempted him in Massah.

NOTE Jesus was saying that to do what the devil was asking would mean that He would be tempting His Father in heaven. Although the devil was quoting Scripture (Ps 91:11; do not forget that he will “*use the Bible*” to tempt us), he was in fact asking Jesus to presume upon God’s promises and to “*force God*” to come to His rescue for doing something that was clearly out of the will of God. If we take the promises of God and use them to satisfy our own fleshly desires, we are in fact tempting the Lord our God. We must never, “*use*” God’s Word or promises to fulfill our lustful desires and pride. **Romans 6 is clear on this point related to grace.** “*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*”

Consider how Jesus made himself of no reputation...

Philippians 2:5-8 – Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But **made himself of no reputation**, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Consider these verses related to our relationship with the world...

John 12:25 – He that **loveth his life** shall lose it; and he that **hateth his life in this world** shall keep it unto life eternal.

John 15:9 – If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because **ye are not of the world**, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore **the world hateth you**.

John 17:14 – I have given them thy word; and **the world hath hated them**, because **they are not of the world**, even as I am not of the world.

Luke 6:26 – Woe unto you, when **all men** shall **speak well of you!** for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

Galatians 1:10 – For do I now persuade men, or God? or **do I seek to please men?** for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

Ephesians 6:6 – **Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers**; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;

Colossians 3:22 – Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; **not with eyeservice, as menpleasers**; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

James 4:4 – Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that **the friendship of the world is enmity with God?** whosoever therefore will be **a friend of the world** is the enemy of God.

1 John 4:5-6 – They are **of the world**: therefore **speak they of the world**, and **the world heareth them**. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

Jude 1:16 – These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, **having men's persons in admiration because of advantage**.

Consider how Paul felt about his "pride of life" thoughts and actions before and after salvation...

Philippians 3:7 – But **what things WERE gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ**. Yea doubtless, and **I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord**: for whom I have suffered the **loss of all things**, and **do count them but dung**, that I may win Christ, And be found in him...

- ✓ Jesus **did not sin against His Father** in heaven – not even **ONE time!**

1 Peter 1:18-21; Hebrews 2:14-18; 4:14-16; 5:1-1-10

Hebrews 2:18 – For in that **he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted**.

Hebrews 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**.

Hebrews 5:8 – Thou he were a Son, **yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered**:

NOTE Jesus "*was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*" If He would have sinned, He would not have been able to become our sacrificial Lamb on the cross to pay the price for our sins! As a man, Jesus resisted the devil and **used the written Word of God** to defeat his worldly temptations. The devil was not able to cause Him to sin! Like Jesus, **we must use the Scriptures to defeat worldly temptations**. We are all tempted. However, we do not have to sin! Jesus defeated sin and death. Choose the Saviour and His glory over **SIN!**

- ❖ **Personal Application**

- Repent of your worldly lusts today! Resist the devil. Forsake sin. Follow Christ.

- ❖ **A Time of Remembrance** – Believers, join with us as we **remember** the Lord's Supper...