

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible
 Current Book: The Gospel According to Mark – Message 6

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 2)*

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we began to study the temptations of Satan toward our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw *the devil's approach* to temptation and *the approach Jesus took* to defeat the temptations. The first of the devil's temptations was focused on (#1) *the lust of the FLESH*. It is important to note that this was the **EXACT same approach** he used when he tempted Eve in the garden (Gen 3)! Today, we will continue our study with (#2) *the lust of the eyes*. We will be reminded of how the devil tries to tempt us every single day. If we have a desire to please God, we will use **the Scriptures** to defeat the temptations like Jesus did. However, if we care more about **SELF** than God's glory, we will take no thought for these things and the devil will succeed in his goal. These things are **critical for us to understand and do** on a daily basis.

PREACHING NOTES

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

- ✓ Satan tempted Jesus with *the lust* of the **FLESH** ... (lustful appetites within or to the **BODY**)
 Matthew 4:3-4; Galatians 5:16-26 ("Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like")

Genesis 3:6 – And when the woman saw that the tree was **good for food ... she took** of the fruit ...

Consider the devil's fleshly temptations toward Job...

The devil's goal:

Job 2:5 – But put forth thine hand now, and **touch his bone and his flesh**, and *he will curse thee to thy face*.

The devil's tactic:

Job 2:7 – So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and **smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown**.

NOTE The goal of this temptation is to get the children of God to focus **MORE** on their *own fleshly desires* and "*perceived*" needs than the glory of their great God and Saviour. Often, God is blasphemed and the work of the Lord stops when the child of God is **consumed** with the things that the flesh desires.

Jesus used this verse to defeat the flesh-centered temptation...

Matthew 4:4 – But he answered and said, **It is written**, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Deuteronomy 8:3 – And **he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna**, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; **that he might make thee know that** man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

NOTE God may at times humble us and allow our flesh to be forcibly denied. Our flesh does not like to be out of its "*comfort zone*". It is good for us to be afflicted in the flesh at times (Ps 119:71). It is good for us to deny and mortify our flesh. All to the end, that we draw nigh to and glorify our Saviour.

In order to overcome this temptation over a lifetime, you must kill the flesh...

Colossians 3:5 – **Mortify** therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: **For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience**: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication...

- ✓ Satan tempted Jesus with **the lust** of the **EYES** ... (covetous **lust for things seen** with the **EYES**)
Matthew 4:8-10; Exodus 20:17; Romans 7:7; Deuteronomy 11:18; Jeremiah 6:13; 22:17; Psalm 4:23

Matthew 4:8-9 – Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and **sheweth him** all the kingdoms of the world, and **the glory of them**; And saith unto him, All these **things** will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and **worship me**.

Genesis 3:6 – And when **the woman saw** ... and that it was **pleasant to the eyes** ... **she took** of the fruit ...

Consider the devil's worldly temptations toward Job...

The devil's goal:

Job 1:11 – But put forth thine hand now, and **touch all that he hath**, and **he will curse thee to thy face**.

The devil's tactic:

Job 1:14-16 – And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing...

NOTE The goal of this temptation is to get the children of God to **COVET vain and forbidden things** and to be **discontent with God's provision** so they **WORSHIP** the stuff (devils) **instead of God!** (1 Cor 10:20)

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

Matthew 4:10 – Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for **it is written**, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Deuteronomy 6:13-14 – Thou shalt **fear the LORD thy God, and serve him**, and shalt swear by his name. **Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you;**

Exodus 20:3 – Thou shalt have **no other gods before me**.

NOTE Jesus got right to the root of the temptation – **idolatry!** Colossians exhorts us to set our **EYES** on Christ and heavenly things and **not on this God-forsaken world!** God may allow the things we covet to be taken away. It is good to be content and thankful. It is good to have **eyes ONLY** for our God!!!

There are many stories in the Bible of people who were tempted with the lust of the eyes...

Sampson	Judges 16:1 – Then went Samson to Gaza, and saw there an harlot, and went in unto her .
Achan	Joshua 7:21 – When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold... then I coveted them , and took them ...
David	2 Samuel 11:2 – And it came to pass...David arose...from the roof he saw a woman...
Ananias/Sapphira	Acts 5:1-2 – But a certain man... sold a possession ...And kept back part of the price ...

Consider this sober warning from our Lord Jesus Christ on this temptation...

Matthew 5:27-29 – Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit **adultery**: But I say unto you, That **whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart**. And **if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee**: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be **cast into hell**.

Colossians 3:5 – **Mortify** therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and **covetousness, which is idolatry**:

❖ **Personal Application**

- Are **you** falling for the devil's temptations using the lust of the eyes? **Get serious – CUT it out!**

A TIME OF DECISION

There are no coincidences with God. You were here today to hear a message **from God**...

❖ **Unbeliever**, listen to the voice of your **conscience right now**.

* The Bible says you must **confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus** and **believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead**. You must turn to God and trust Christ alone to save you from God's wrath to come.