

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

2015 VISION: *Redeem the Time!*

Current Book: The Gospel According to Mark – Message 5

Scriptures for Today: Mark 1:12-13

Title of Today's Message: *The Obedient Servant – our pattern in temptation!*

## INTRODUCTION

Last week, after seeing Jesus be our great example of submission and obedience to God through **baptism**, we took a pause to consider Jesus' first words in Mark and the response of the disciples to His invitation to **COME**. Today, we will rewind a bit to verses 12 and 13. The Bible says **IMMEDIATELY** after Jesus was **baptized**, the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness for **forty days** where He was **TEMPTED** of Satan. The **devil's approach** to temptation and **the approach Jesus took to defeat the temptations are critical for us to understand and do** on a daily basis. Consider this passage...

*"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."*

– Paul (Hebrews 4:15; inspired by the Holy Ghost; proving that Jesus is acquainted with our infirmities, but sinless)

## PREACHING NOTES

1. The Spirit **immediately driveth Him** into **the wilderness** for **FORTY** days. 1:12

- ✓ All the gospels include Jesus being tempted of the devil **except John** – Mark is the shortest... Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 4:13

**NOTE** This event is not written to prove to us that Jesus was God. It was written to prove to us that He was **a MAN!**

- ✓ As He was faithful to obey His Father in heaven, **the Holy Spirit led Him** to **MORE trials...** Romans 8:1, 12-17; Acts 8:26-29; **"forty days"** Genesis 7:12 (flood); Exodus 24:18; 34:28 (Moses 1<sup>st</sup> time); Numbers 13:25; 14:34 (promised land); Deuteronomy 9:18, 25; 10:10 (Moses 2<sup>nd</sup> time); 1 Kings 19:8 (Elijah); Jonah 3:4 (Nineveh); Acts 1:3 (Jesus shewed himself alive after his passion)

**Romans 8:14** – For as many as are **led by the Spirit of God**, they are the sons of God.

**Deuteronomy 9:25** – Thus **I fell down before the LORD forty days and forty nights**, as I fell down at the first; because the LORD had said he would destroy you.

**Deuteronomy 18:15** – The LORD thy **God will raise up unto thee a Prophet** from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, **like unto me**; unto him ye shall hearken;

**NOTE** The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. **It was time for Him to be proven!** Like Moses who was forty days interceding with God on Mount Sinai on behalf of the children of Israel so that they would not perish, so Jesus Christ was forty days in the wilderness tempted by the devil – **for our sake!**

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

- ✓ The Bible calls Satan **the devil**, the **TEMPTER**, and **the accuser** of the brethren... Matt 4:3; 1 Thessalonians 3:5;

**Matthew 4:3** – And when **the tempter** came to him, he said, **If thou be the Son of God...**

- ✓ Satan used **the SAME approach** with Jesus that **he used with Eve in the garden...** 1 John 2:15-17; Genesis 3:1-6

**1 John 2:15-17** – Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world... **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...**

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

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

**Genesis 3:6** – And when **the woman saw** ... and a tree **to be desired to make one wise, she took** of the fruit ...

- ✓ 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*”)  
**Matthew 4:3** – And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, **command that these stones be made bread.**
- ✓ Satan tempted Jesus with **the lust** of the **EYES** ... (covetous pleasure through 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**...these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and **worship me.**
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ Jesus **resisted the devil** and used **the WRITTEN Word** to defeat his temptations **for a season**...  
Psalm 119:11; 2 Corinthians 10:4; Ephesians 6:11 (“*stand against the wiles of the devil*”); James 4:7  
**Psalm 119:11** – **Thy word have I hid in mine heart**, that I might not sin against thee.  
**2 Corinthians 10:4** – (For **the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds**;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and **bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ**;  
**James 4:7** – Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**
- ✓ 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** Oh how we need to hear from God today on the issue of temptations through worldly lusts! 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! We need to take heed to the Bible today. **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. We **CHOOSE** to either sin or overcome temptations with the written Word. **It is our choice.** If God in human flesh used the Bible, **we must follow His example!** We have this written account in Mark as a reminder for us to do what Jesus **DID!**

#### ❖ Personal Application

- Have you been falling prey to the devil and worldly lusts? Remember, he wants to devour you (1 Pet 5:8). Repent of your worldly appetites today! Resist the devil. Forsake sin. Follow Christ.

### **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.