



#4, Jesus & The Enemy

Luke 3:21-4:15, Genesis 3:1-15, 1 John 3:8

This weekend we're looking at Jesus' conversation with the (*our*) Enemy. Let's face it, this is a conversation that many of us wrestle with every day. I really believe that God wants to do a healing work this weekend in our minds and hearts! I invite you to turn in your Bibles to Luke 3.

Luke 3:21

- **The beginning of these two dramatic encounters in Luke are preceded by prayer.**
 - Prayer is conversation with God!
 - Prayer is how we can experience a 1:1 conversation with God!

Luke 3:22

- **More than just a brief moment between the Father and the Son, these two verses provide one of the clearest biblical pictures of the Trinity in action.**
 - The Bible continually speaks of a doctrine of "The Trinity".
 - The Doctrine of the Trinity says that God exists as 3 people, 1 God!
 - **The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**
 - These verses provide clear evidence for the doctrine of the Trinity!

Luke 3:23-38

- **Jesus was the same age as Joseph (Gen 41) and David (2 Sam 5) when he began to lead!**
- What follows in Luke's Gospel is the genealogy of Jesus going all the way back to Adam.
 - Luke is trying to show us that Jesus is like a new Adam, is about to enter a new battle to redeem a new people.

(Genesis 3:15)

- **The Enemy is a created being under the authority of God!**
- Genesis 3:15 includes the earliest indication of *someone* would come and bruise the head/ crush the life/ destroy the work of the Adversary!
 - Here we see that the first temptation of man occurred in a garden and he failed!
 - But this temptation of the second man, the second Adam, occurs in a wilderness and He is victorious!!

Luke 4:1-2

- **On the heels of His moment of greatest affirmation, Jesus enters into His greatest temptation!**
 - It seems only right that Jesus, who came to "destroy the devil's work" should begin his own ministry with a conflict with the Enemy...

1 John 3:8

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

- **40 isn't just a random number in scripture – it's a number rich in biblical significance.**
 - ISRAEL was in the wilderness for 40 years (Deut. 8)
 - MOSES was on Mt. Sinai 40 days and nights (Ex. 34)
 - ELIJAH was led for 40 days and nights (1 Kgs. 19)
- **In each one of these accounts, the timeframe (40 days/ years) was God's proving ground for His promise of deliverance and victory!**
 - If you're in a season of testing and from the Enemy, realize that the Enemy is a created being operating within a time approved by the Lord!

Luke 4:3

- **Remember the last words still echoing in Jesus' ears...**
 - "You are my beloved Son... in whom I am well pleased."
 - Satan says, "Are you sure?"
 - The enemy will STRIKE confusion where it hurts the most - at the center of identity!
 - **Q: Do you ever lay in bed at night and thinking that you're a failure?**
- *When you feel defeated, it's a good sign that Satan is at work within your inner world of thoughts!*

Who you think that you are will determine how you live!

Luke 4:4-7

- **What does Jesus do?**
 - *He quotes scripture! The quote is Deut. 8:3*
 - It's the passage where Moses reminded the Israelites in their own wilderness that they should trust God's word rather than the manna he gave them.
 - **How much more do we need to know the Word of God to declare it to the enemy when he comes to destroy our lives!!**
 - *The crucial step towards breakthrough in your wilderness is to speak God's truth!*

Did you know that something doesn't need to be true to be devastating to your life, it just simply needs to be believed by you!

Luke 4:8-15

- **Three times we see Jesus using the same weapon in reply to the enemy's temptations!**
 - Even though Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit, his weapon of defense was the Word of God!
 - Why, because the Word is Truth! (*Ephesians 6:17*)
 - **The most central and significant part of a believer's life is to learn to recognize the voices of lies and to distinguish them from word of God's truth!**
 - Use the simple but direct weaponry of God's word to rebut lies with truth.

Here are 4 practical pointers when you're feeling talked about/to by the Enemy:

- 1) **Believe** God's Word and engage in worship!
- 2) **Declare** the truth through prayer and writing!
- 3) **Change** up your schedule and get out of the house!
- 4) **Get** a good night's sleep!

Don't waste any more days in your life wondering and fearing with the Enemy is (or is not) saying about you!