

# The Wilderness

## Part 3

Part 1.

### **The wilderness is a Place of Dependency:**

1. A Place where God is everything you need...
2. In the Wilderness God is your:
  - Provider
  - Protection
  - Companion

### **The Wilderness is a place of Solitude:**

Solitude: The state of being alone.

### **Matthew 5:11**

11 “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

### **The Wilderness is a place of Transition:**

- Sandwiched in between Jesus’ Baptism and His Ministry was a Wilderness...
- What takes place in the wilderness is important...

**Vs. 13** and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan.

**Tempted:** To try, trial or test.

**Trial:** *dokimion*/do-ke'-me-on

1) the proving

2) that by which something is tried or proved, a test

3) a crucible or furnace for smelting

- God has a plan in everything we go through.
- Stay Faithful.
- There is something greater on the other side.

Part 2.

**Luke 4:1,2**

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was **led by the Spirit into the wilderness,**

**Mark 1:12**

Immediately **the Spirit drove Him** into the wilderness.

**drove:** to cast out, drive out, to send out.

- The Jesus in the Wilderness was the Great Comeback of all time...
- It was a rewind the tape moment...
- To revisit the place where Adam & Eve lost the battle...
- Jesus was God's 4000 years in the making Come Back...
- This was the start over point...

Was it for us? Yes...

Was it necessary for the redemption of mankind? Absolutely...

But Jesus shutting the Devil down was for the Heart of God the Father...

Jesus was the fulfillment of  
Isaiah 52:13

**See, my servant will act wisely;**

Oh how it pleased the Heart of God to have a Faithful Servant...

**This is the Revelation:**

Adam was Disobedience & Ultimately broke the heart of God...

Jesus was the Faithful Servant who came after Adam...

He was Faithful and He was Obedient...

The First act of Jesus' Ministry was to minister to God the Father...

### Part 3. Jesus leaving the Wilderness

#### Luke 4:13-20

13 When **the devil had finished all this tempting**, he left him until an opportune time.

14 Jesus returned to Galilee **in the power of the Spirit**, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. 15 He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

18

**“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.**

**He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,**

19

**to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”**

20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

#### Vs.13

When **the Devil finished all his tempting**

#### Matthew 4:11

**Then the devil left him**, and angels came and attended him.

#### James 4:7

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist the devil**, and he will flee from you.

- Just before Jesus left the Wilderness it's clear that he was victorious over the temptations/testing of the Devil.
- Jesus resisted the temptation of the Devil and it says "When **the devil had finished all this tempting**, he left him..."
- The temptation didn't go on and on
- The temptation he endured was for a short period

### **1 Corinthians 10:13**

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.

God has promised the same for you and I.

We may endure Temptation for a time

We may endure Testing for a time

But these temptations have limits...

And in your temptation resist the Devil...

And in your temptation remember you have not failed...

Rather flee temptation...

Remember temptation is not sin...

### **Hebrews 4:15**

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin.

- Jesus picks up right where Adam and Eve left off...
- He faced those same temptations and shows us you can say NO...
- Adam and Eve left the Garden defeated and under the consequences of sin...
- Jesus left the Wilderness victorious and **in the power of the Spirit...**
- One major lie of the Devil is that what you do in private won't effect you in public...
- He told Eve "You shall not surely die"...

- What he was saying to Eve was your sin and disobedience to God is not a big deal...
- Our obedience or disobedience to God in private has major implication on every area of our life and will have a profound effect on it and also those around us...
- Jesus said, *“But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.”* **Matthew 6:6**

**What is done in secret will be rewarded openly...**

### **Vs. 14**

Jesus returned to Galilee **in the power of the Spirit,**

**“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”**

Jesus needed the Holy Spirit to sustain and empower Him to obey His Father, even to the point of death on the cross (**Phil. 2:10**).

Jesus needed the Holy Spirit in every act that took place in His life and for the work of redemption.

The Holy Spirit overshadowed the virgin Mary at Jesus' incarnation (**Luke 1:35**);

Christ needed the Spirit at His anointing for public ministry when John baptized Him (**Matt. 3:16; Luke 3:22**);

He needed the Spirit when driven into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil (**Matt. 4:1; Mark 1:12**);

He needed the Spirit when casting out demons in order to establish the kingdom of God (**Matt. 12:28**);

He needed the Spirit to enable Him to offer Himself without spot to God as an atoning sacrifice for the sin of His people (**Heb. 9:14**); and, He needed the Spirit to raise Him from the dead (**Rom. 8:11**). At every step Jesus relied upon the Holy Spirit.

### **Acts 10:38**

how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

This is Jesus' model for ministry... **in the power of the Spirit**

Jesus' Ministry began in the power of the Spirit...

The Church was birthed in the power of the Holy Spirit...

Paul after his encounter with Jesus received the Holy Spirit before his ministry began...

The Disciples were instructed by Jesus to wait in Jerusalem until they received the Gift of the Father, the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **Acts 1:8**

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...

The Lord crowned Jesus obedience with Power

Closing:

Are you in a Wilderness?

If so God will see you through that Wilderness and you can go out in the Power of the Spirit...

Are you fighting Temptation?

Jesus our Lord was also tempted in the same way... He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear and will provide you a way of escape...