

WK5D4

Welcome to Gods Promise, I'm Dr. Kiley and I'm here to help you apply God's promise to your life.

This week we are looking at the The Promises of God's Living Word. Yesterday we looked at My Identity and how the promise relates to our position as a child of God. Today we are looking at the Impact of the promise when it is received and applied to our life.

Everyone loves a good drama. Novels, plays, or movies there are many great opportunities to get emotionally involved in a suspenseful tale. Yet one supersedes all others in terms of importance as a dramatic story. You've probably read it without recognizing its dramatic tension. Luke records it in Luke 4:1-13.

Luke 4:1-13 says, *“Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.’ Jesus answered, ‘It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’” The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, ‘I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. If you worship me, it will all be yours.’ Jesus answered, ‘It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ‘If you are the Son of God,’ he said, ‘throw yourself down from here. For it is written: ‘‘He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered, ‘It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.”*

What kind of drama do you enjoy? A spine-tingling nail-biter that keeps you awake half the night? How about a white-knuckle espionage spy thriller? Or perhaps you prefer a nineteenth-century love story filled with eloquence and intrigue. But perhaps the greatest drama ever written was penned by a doctor who lived in the first century AD. It may never be nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, but when it comes to drama of the highest order, the story of the temptation of Christ is unparalleled.

With only 250 words and two characters, the potential for drama would seem slim. But the plot is the clincher. For the first thirty years of Jesus' life, Satan remained on the sidelines. But as Jesus began His public ministry, the antagonist came to the fore. Several thousand years earlier, Satan had been successful in causing the downfall of the only other sinless people ever to walk the planet—a couple named Adam and Eve. Now another sinless One—a second Adam—had come on a mission to restore Adam's fallen race. Jesus, the Word made flesh, came to present the words and works of God to the sons and daughters of Adam in order to lead them back to God. Hanging in the balance was nothing less than the salvation of the entire human race. There was no understudy in this drama. Should Jesus fail and yield to the wiles of the devil, humanity would be doomed.

Three times Satan offered the second Adam enticements, and three times the Word made flesh answered with the written Word of God. His life and God's Word are inseparable, who He is and what He says demonstrate the will of God. And the battle was and is won! The second Adam has gained back what the first Adam lost.

Did you realize that your spiritual destiny hung in the balance in a Judean desert some two thousand years ago? The next time you pray, offer a word of thanks to Jesus for being the leading Man in the greatest high stakes drama ever played out.

God's Promise: The Word of God, written and living, is the key to spiritual victory.