

This Week's Sermon

THE REMATCH

Luke 4:1-13 (& Genesis 3:1-6)

1. When we are tempted, we can go without that thing we desire and still be satisfied. Satisfaction on this earth is not a matter of our outward provision nor circumstance. We can live a fulfilling life even when deprived of the pleasures of this life.
2. The devil wants Jesus to break with the Father and give allegiance to him.
IMPORTANT: When a man receives Christ, the action goes the other direction. He goes from allegiance to the devil to allegiance to the Father.
3. Jesus feels no need to substantiate the truth of God's words with a test. Apologetics has its place, but God's truthfulness needs no defense. When apologetics is done right, one does not defend God, but defends reason.

CENTRAL LESSON OF THE DAY:

Fallen men can now beat Satan; or, better said, Jesus who has beaten Satan lives within the men and women who trust in God's Son.

Questions for further study:

1. Why would a snake be the choice for Satan to take shape in? Or did he possess a snake? Either way, why a snake, and not some other creature?
2. Compare and contrast Adam and Jesus. Where they lived, what they experienced, how they were born or created, what they ate, etc. What was each one's life like prior to the Devil's approach.
3. Both Adam and Jesus were without sin when Satan approached them. Why do you think Satan's temptations worked on Adam but not Jesus? Remember, both were sinless when the devil came to them.
4. In our world today, we are certainly not without sin personally. Does a life of ease and abundance help or hurt our ability to withstand the temptations of the devil?

He Has A Plan

From the beginning of time, God had a plan for the redemption of mankind.

Session 11

1. As we have been learning, God is working to bring redemption to the world through a nation. Israel is the chosen method, but they are not being a blessing to the world. How is God responding to Israel as a nation? Give a quick recap of this week's class.
2. Saul had great wisdom that came from God, but he eventually lost this wisdom and the rule of the kingdom. Read 1 Samuel 15:24. Why did Saul disobey God? What can we learn and apply to our lives from this?
3. Israel, as a nation, had a very tough time staying true to God's commands. After Saul, the Israelites are split into how many nations?
4. Read Psalms 137. As a nation, the Israelites were not a happy bunch. Describe how they were feeling based on this Psalm.
5. Israel is invaded by nations, sent into exile, and ruled by men who are not always good. Under this type of environment, how might you respond?
6. Nation building is complicated. Compare and contrast God's work to build a nation to God's work to build you. What is God trying to do in and through the nation of Israel? What is God trying to do in and through you? Based on your answers, does this begin to shed some light on your own life and give more perspective as a surrendered believer in Christ?

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