

**“The Triumphant Savior”**  
**Luke 4:1-13**  
**Sermon Series: “The Servant King”**

**Read Luke 3:23, 3:38, and 4:1-13**

**Main Idea: We can trust Jesus, who is the Son of God and the Messiah, because He triumphed over Satan by overcoming every temptation and then ultimately defeating Him on the cross.**

**1. The Tempter**

- A. He is real.**
- B. He is powerful but limited.**
- C. He is a liar and a deceiver who wants to destroy (John 8:44).**
- D. He is looking for opportune moments to tempt us.**

**2. The Temptations**

**A. The first temptation was for Jesus to use His power outside of the will of God to meet His own needs (v. 3-4).**

**-Jesus responded by quoting from Deuteronomy 8:3.**

-Physical needs are not wrong. True needs are God-given. However, it is sinful when we meet those needs in ungodly ways. Satan was tempting Jesus (and he tempts us) to separate the physical from the spiritual and prioritize the physical over the spiritual (Examples: Sex, food, beauty, music, pastors mistreating their congregants).

-Dwight Pentecost: “Satan’s invitation was based on the sonship which the Father had acknowledged at Jesus’ baptism. The sonship of Christ carried with it the implication that the Son had certain rights and there was no reason why He could not exercise those rights to gratify His appetite and satisfy Himself. This suggests that man’s highest good comes from gratifying his desires and happiness comes from satisfying his fleshly appetites. The implication is that man is a physical being with physical appetites which are to be gratified; thus, man lives by bread alone.

-Warren Wiersbe: “It is better to be hungry in the will of God than satisfied out of the will of God. When our Lord quoted Deuteronomy 8:3, He put the emphasis on the word man. As the eternal Son of God, He had power to do anything; but as the humble

Son of man, He had authority to do only that which the Father willed. (Note carefully John 5:30). As the Servant, Jesus did not use His divine attributes for selfish purposes (Phil. 2:5-8). Because He was man, He hungered; but He trusted the Father to meet His needs in His own time and His own way.”

**B. The second temptation was for Jesus to seek glory apart from the cross by worshipping Satan (v. 5-8).**

**Jesus responded by quoting from Deuteronomy 6:13.**

Pentecost: “This was a subtle imitation of what God the Father promised to the Son as declared in Psalm 2. God’s will was to bring the Son to a throne but by way of the cross. The devil implied that Jesus might have what the Father promised without going to the cross. Only one condition was attached: “If you will bow down and worship me” (Matt. 4:9). To receive worship has been Satan’s chief ambition ever since, being motivated by pride, he attempted to dethrone God, usurp God’s authority, and receive the worship, the honor, and the glory that belongs to God Himself (Isa. 14:14; 2 Thess. 2:4).”

-Psalm 2:6-8, Luke 24:26, Philippians 2:6-11, Matthew 16:21-25

**C. The third temptation was for Jesus to tempt God by forcing Him to fulfill His promise of protection (v. 9-12).**

Kent Hughes: “In addition, many Jews of that day expected prophets to do extraordinary feats (*Antiquities*, 20.5, 1.97-98; cf. Acts 5:35-37). There may even have been a messianic overtone in Satan’s challenge because a later Rabbinic saying read: “Our teachers have taught, when the King, the Messiah, reveals himself, he will come and stand on the roof of the Temple”. (*Pesiqta rabbati*, 36). Add to this the tendency of the godly to be attracted by the challenge to “step out in faith” and you can feel the tug of the temptation. In fact, refusal or even hesitancy in such situations could appear to be a lack of faith.”

-This would have looked like faith but would have really been a lack of faith. Jesus trusted in the promise of God.

**-Jesus responded by quoting from Deuteronomy 6:16 after Satan had twisted and misquoted Psalm 91:11-12.**

-Just because someone quotes from Scripture does not mean that they are speaking truth if they take it out of context, misquote, misapply, twist, etc.

-Israel had tempted the Lord in the wilderness with their unbelief (Psalm 78:40-41).

### **3. The Triumphant Savior**

-While we are going to apply this practically to us and look at some strategies to overcome temptation, this is not primarily about our temptation but the temptation of Jesus. We can trust Jesus, who is the Son of God and the Messiah, because He triumphed over Satan by overcoming every temptation and then ultimately defeating Him on the cross.

-G. Campbell Morgan: “In conclusion, the significance of the temptation may be seen by placing the whole of the facts in contrast with the account of the temptation of Adam.

The devil challenged the first man. The second Man challenged the devil. The devil ruined the first Adam. The last Adam spoiled the devil. The first Adam involved the race in his defeat. The last Adam included the race in His victory. The first Adam stood as the head of the race and falling, dragged the race down with him. The last Adam stood as the Head of the new race, and being victorious, lifted that race with Him. This is not a picture of the last Adam doing merely what the first Adam did, going into the place of passive life, and then when temptation came, resisting it. The second Man had not only to resist temptation when it assailed Him for His own sake, but He had to lay hold of the tempter, and defeat him and punish him for the wrong he did in the ruin of the first man.”

**A. Jesus defeated the devil so we are victorious in Christ (Hebrews 2:14-15, Colossians 2:13-15, Romans 8:37, 1 Corinthians 15:57)**

**B. Jesus overcame temptation so even when we give in to temptation, He has atoned for our sins (Hebrews 2:16-17).**

**C. Jesus overcame temptation so when we are tempted, He is able to sympathize with us and help us (Hebrews 2:18, 4:14-16).**