

- Today
 - **Pt 4 in the Mark series.**
 - The temptation of Jesus... by Satan.
 - A profound event with deep theological implications.
 - Neat typology
 - And important application for our daily battles with temptation

First read-through – notice the elements, notice what it says

Mark 1:12–13 (NASB95)

¹²Immediately the Spirit impelled Him to go out into the wilderness.

¹³And He was in the wilderness forty days being tempted by Satan; and He was with the wild beasts, and the angels were ministering to Him.

- Very short account in Mark
 - But it has profound theological/Christological significance.
- Big picture
 - Jesus is subject to temptation!
 - God with us, yet He is tempted.
 - Not just any temptation... by Satan.
 - Jesus overcomes sin and Satan in our place.
 - I think this is multifaceted
 - **1- Christology**
 - Tempted?
 - 2- **Typology** of Jesus as the greater Moses, the greater Israel, the last Adam.
 - 3- **Satan**
 - 4- Some important lessons for **our OWN temptation**
- First the theological/Christological issues.
 - Jesus being tempted raises some questions.
 - God can't be tempted...
 - **James 1:13 (NASB95) "God cannot be tempted by evil"**
 - Yet Jesus was tempted.

- **Mk 1:13 "tempted by Satan"**
- **Hebrews 4:15 "tempted in all things as we are yet without sin"**

- Some point to God being tempted in the OT and say this answers the dilemma.
 - Psalm 106:13–14 (NASB95) ¹³They quickly forgot His works; They did not wait for His counsel, ¹⁴But craved intensely in the wilderness, And **tempted God in the desert.**
 - BUT that's not "tempted as we are"
- In what way?
 - Two natures
 - One human, one divine
 - Truly God
 - **Colossians 2:9 (NASB95) ⁹For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,**
 - **John 1:1–3 (NASB95) ¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.**
 - **John 1:14 (NASB95) ¹⁴And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.**
 - Truly Man
 - The virgin birth wasn't a sham.
 - **Romans 1:3 (NASB95) ³concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh,**

- **2 John 7 (NASB95) ⁷For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.**
- God and Man
 - 100% each? No
 - Truly God, Truly Man
 - Two natures. One person
- The temptation of Jesus is possible because of the incarnation.
 - Human desires and weaknesses
 - Hunger
 - Fasting – tempted to eat when He was not supposed to.
 - Had a real physical desire for food.
 - Self-preservation
 - To not go to the cross
 - **Matthew 26:39 (NASB95) ³⁹And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.”**
 - **John 12:27 (NASB95) ²⁷“Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour.**
 - Satan – tempted to worship Satan, to foolishly tempt the Father
 - It may be that these particular things had little appeal to Him because of His goodness.
 - Great temptation to one person is repulsive to another.

- How much more true in the case of Christ
- Here’s what we know
 - Jesus is one person with two natures.
 - He was tempted
 - Yet He didn’t sin
 - **Hebrews 4:15 (NASB95) ...One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.**
 - Outlier passage?
 - But God cannot be tempted by evil!
 - **James 1:13 “God cannot be tempted by evil”**
 - Options:
 - 1) The incarnation allowed Him to be tempted by evil.
 - 2) Jesus wasn’t. Because that speaks of an internal evil.
- What some still debate
 - Could Jesus have actually sinned?
 - Peccability vs Impeccability
 - Peccability – able to not sin (and able to as well)
 - Impeccability – Not able to sin
 - Most Christians are in this category.
 - Jesus had means to sin
 - He had the physical ability to
 - Jesus had external motive to do things that were sinful
 - Flee from the cross. Call angels to save Him.
 - Jesus didn’t have the inclination or weakness of character required to sin
 - Why? Jesus never stopped being God and holiness is an essential attribute of God.

- An argument for peccability
 - It had to be fair
 - Scripture? None.
 - He wasn't really human if he couldn't sin
- Argument against
 - 1) This doesn't take into account Christ's nature as God
 - God is holy. Jesus is God
 - God cannot sin.
 - Not for any lack of power but because He is good.
 - Ps 119 "you are good, you do good"
 - The incarnation wasn't an exchange of natures.
 - It was an addition.
 - ***Colossians 2:9 (NASB95)***
⁹For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,
 - To say Jesus CAN sin is to say GOD can sin.
 - This involves the corruption of His nature
 - And if we recognize that goodness is an essential part of God's nature then we see the consequences of saying Jesus had a capacity to do evil.
- Does that mean Jesus wasn't really human?
 - No. In our exalted state we will not sin, this doesn't make us less human.
 - Jesus could experience great temptation due to his human nature. But could not yield to it (internally) due to His holiness.
 - Wire, crowbar

- Benny Hinn, "Good Morning, Holy Spirit"
 - Said, "Had the Holy Spirit not been with Jesus He may have likely have sinned. That's right. It was the Holy Spirit who was the power that kept Him pure. If you believe that Jesus was not able to sin, then why would Satan waste his time tempting him."
 - Previous version "He would have sinned"
 - Jesus didn't sin for 30 years prior to this!
 - Before the HS descending upon Him at His baptism.
 - This also goes against the kenosis stuff. That I'm just like Jesus.
 - I have the Holy Spirit, I still sin.
 - The HS isn't enough, some
 - Why would Satan bother?
 - I don't guess Satan's motives
 - How deceived is he anyways?
 - Rom 1
 - Father of lies...
 - First lied to himself
 - Finally,
 - A knockdown argument against this is from what we know about Satan. He continues to fight a battle he's destined to lose.
 - Why would he fight against God if he couldn't win?
 - We don't conclude Satan can win!
 - We don't conclude he could have succeeded in tempting Jesus either.
 - Plus... Benny Hinn.
- ¹²**Immediately the Spirit impelled Him to go out into the wilderness.**
 - Impelled by the Spirit

- Jesus is NOT acting merely according to His own volition.
 - But He is willfully doing these things.
 - A unity in purpose
- Jesus gives credit to the Father, Himself and the Holy Spirit for the same works.

- TYPOLOGY

- Into the wilderness
 - Desolate, inhospitable. Contrast this with Adam.
 - Adam and Eve were tempted by Satan and sinned in the garden
 - There, Adam was our representative.
 - The first “Adam”
 - Jesus arrives in the wilderness, the fallen world
 - And overcomes temptation and Satan.
 - (1 Cor 15) Jesus is the last Adam... our representative!
 - Rev – imagery of the garden but better.
 - Adam was with the tamed beasts
 - Jesus was with the wild beasts
 - Jesus is dealing with the fall.
 - The wilderness is also where **Israel** failed temptation
 - Psalm 106:13–15 (NASB95) ¹³They quickly forgot His works; They did not wait for His counsel, ¹⁴But craved intensely in the wilderness, And tempted God in the desert. ¹⁵So He gave them their request, But sent a wasting disease among them.
 - Psalm 78:18 (NASB95) ¹⁸And in their heart they put God to the test By asking food according to their desire.
 - Exodus 17:2 (NASB95) ²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water that we may drink.” And

Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?”

- They failed... Jesus succeeded.
- They tested God.
 - Jesus was tempted, and didn’t “tempt” the Father.
 - “you shall not tempt the Lord your God”
- Jesus is the “true vine”
 - The fulfillment of what Israel is all about.
 - Prophecy key.
- ¹³**And He was in the wilderness forty days**
 - Forty days
 - Didn’t mention fasting. So, 40 days has significance beyond the idea of how long Jesus went without eating.
 - 40 days.
 - Length of time
 - 40 years Israel tested God.
- Fasting only mentioned in other Gospels
 - Fasting (still drinking water)
 - Mt and Lk
 - ***Moses fasted for forty days and forty nights during the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai (Ex. 34:28, Deut. 9:9). And he did it again after he found Israel breaking the Law by worshipping the golden calf (Deut. 9:18). Elijah fasted forty days as well (1 Kings 19:7-8).***
 - A prophet like Moses.
 - But dealing with so much more!
 - All the Law meant!
 - So, connections with Adam, Israel and Moses
 - ***Vs 13 “the angels were ministering to Him”***
 - I don’t know. Food?

- Elijah? 1 Kings 19
 - But it shows His dependency.
 - Heb 1 Made lower than the angels
- Vs 13 Tempted by Satan
 - Satan is
 - A liar and the father of lies (Jn 8:44)
 - The tempter (1 Thes 3:5)
 - Your adversary (1 Pet 5:8)
 - He is the god of this world (2 Cor 4:4)
 - He's NOT the evil opposite of God!
 - One tactic of Satan and his minions is to tempt.
 - Incorporated with lies.
 - Jesus is victorious!
 - Colossians 2:15 (NASB95) ¹⁵When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.
 - "I have overcome the world"
 - Though this is just one victory
 - He keeps beating Satan throughout the book of Mark
 - Casting out demons
 - But is Satan tempting YOU?
 - Because this outward extreme isn't something most experience.
 - But –
 - **1 Thessalonians 3:5 (NASB95) ⁵For this reason, when I could endure it no longer, I also sent to find out about your faith, for fear that the tempter might have tempted you, and our labor would be in vain.**
 - His corporation may.
 - Uses the world.
 - **1 Jn 5:19b "...the whole world lies under the power of the evil one"**
 - **Eph 2:2 "the spirit that now works in the sons of disobedience"**
 - His demonic lackies

- "the devil and his angels" Mt 25:41, Rev 12:7, 9
- **Ephesians 6:11 (NASB95) ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.**
 - Two bad tendencies
 - To call everything Satan and ignore personal responsibility
 - To never see spiritual warfare for what it is.
 - We don't pray, seek, evaluate our lives,
 - Resist
 - **James 4:7–10 (NASB95) ⁷Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**
 - How so?
 - **⁸Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.**
 - Trusting, seeking, purging.
 - But Jesus beat him already.
 - And your victory is in Him, not in your battle.
 - Over temptation
 - Over the lies
 - Over his kingdom
 - Over his persecution
- You and me and our temptations
 - Three lessons.

- 1- scripture twisting
 - Know the context.
 - Know the rest of the scripture.
 - Beware itching ears!!!
 - That too is temptation
 - And people get what they choose to get
 - **2 Timothy 4:3–4 (NASB95)**
³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, ⁴and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.
 - I combat bad theology all the time
 - But some of those in it are in it because of their own desires
- 2- justifications
 - Watch out for the deception that comes with temptation
 - Beware when your convictions conveniently change to fit your desires.
 - No excuses.
 - **Romans 13:14 (NASB95)** *¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make*

no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.

- 3- you need a strong grasp on God's grace
 - Jesus did what we could not.
 - Don't forget His grace
 - 1 John 2:1 (NASB95) *¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;*

Next week –

We get into Jesus' preaching – repentance and the kingdom of God
 We get into the calling of the 12
 Jesus' unique teaching style.

But, today let's remember that the internal battle comes before the outward ministry.

