

## Luke: Temptations Breakdown, Part 1

- ✚ Jesus takes a final exam of sorts to prove that He is a qualified Savior by taking on the devil and his temptations, **Luke 4:1-4**. A qualified Savior is the key to our redemption and salvation as well as the redemption of all creation: **Revelation 5:1-6**.
  - ✚ Nobody knows how bad he is until tried very hard to be good! It's only those who try to resist temptation who know how strong it is. Because Jesus never yielded, He is the only man who knows what temptation fully is. He's qualified to redeem and rescue us from temptation.
1. The pattern of temptations.
    - ✓ Jesus' temptations, for the most part, were unique to Him. The pattern, style and pull of these temptations are common among the temptations we face on a daily basis.
  2. General observations
    - ✓ Jesus intentionally put Himself in the very worst circumstance to face these temptations. This is definitely one time not to follow in Jesus' steps!
    - 1) Jesus put Himself into a tempting situation right after a spiritual high point in His life.
      - ✓ Watch yourself closely, humble yourself greatly, whenever things are going your way. Pride will creep in, and you will be very susceptible to temptation.
    - 2) Jesus allowed Himself to become physically weak
      - ✓ Since we cannot separate our physical bodies from our spiritual bodies, we really need to watch it when we are physically or emotionally weak. We need to be very aware of how vulnerable this makes us, humble ourselves, limit ourselves, depend on others who are stronger.
    - 3) Jesus went out there all by Himself. Don't do what Jesus did!
      - ✓ Never try to take on the devil or his temptations by yourself—you are sure to lose!
    - 4) "The devil said to Him,"
      - ✓ It's important that we understand the construct of the devil's words. Everything he says to Jesus is partly true and partly a lie, this is his M.O. Deception works best when there is a partial truth to it.
    - 5) "If you are the Son of God."
      - ✓ This is actually a poor interpretation of the Greek. He's not questioning but affirming that Jesus is the Son of God. Here's how a Greek ear would hear this question: "If You are the Son of God, and You are,... Better way of hearing it for us is: "Since You are the Son of God..." or "In view of the fact that You are the Son of God..."
      - ✓ Not even the devil questions the fact that He's the Son of God, because He knows! The Demons know – **Matthew 8:29, Luke 4:34; Luke 8:28**.
    - 6) Temptation #1, "Turn these stones into bread"
      - ✓ This is a temptation to distrust God's love and provision for us. Was Jesus hungry? Yes. Had God provided for Him anything to eat? No, so He's being tempted to take matters into His own hands.
      - ✓ Very classic temptation goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden. With this class of temptation, Satan pulls us in to doing stuff for ourselves instead of trusting God's provision, timing and love. If God had wanted to turn those stones into bread, He would have done it, "God will provide for Me when He's ready"

**A very formidable temptation comes when we are pushed to not wait on God, pushed to take matters into our own hands.**

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