

1. The pattern of temptations, Luke 4:1-8.

- ✓ But the pattern, style and pull of these temptations are common among the temptations we face on a daily basis.

2. Jesus does several things here that we need to avoid as much as possible.

- 1) He put Himself into a tempting situation right after a spiritual high point in His life.**
- 2) He was at a point of great physical weakness.**
- 3) He 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!

3. "If you are the Son of God."

- ✓ 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..." No question that He's God Himself because Satan assumes He's capable of turning stones into bread and doing any of the other things he tempts Jesus to do.

4. Temptation #1, "Turn these stones into bread."

- ✓ It's not a temptation to show off (nobody to show off too), not excessive indulgence, not a sin to meet one's own needs.
- ✓ Satan knew Jesus had restricted His independent use of His own deity, **John 4:34**. This is a temptation to distrust God's love and provision for us. Jesus would do nothing on His own; He took only what the Father brought Him.
- ✓ How different would all of our lives be if we had followed resolutely Jesus' example here? What would have changed or been different?
- ✓ Temptation becomes less powerful the more we realize that we only need one thing to be true about us to live, God's will! We don't live because we eat; we live because God has decided so. "I live because God has determined my Life." Bread doesn't keep us alive; God does. **James 4:13-16**; It's not the bread that keeps us alive!

5. Temptation #2, to Distrust God's Plan and take the easy way out, Luke 4:1-4.

- ✓ **Verses 5-8**; How'd he do this? Don't be too wowed though. Whatever ability he has, is God's ability; whatever authority he has, it's God's authority/
- ✓ We rejected the Father of Light and chose to distrust His love and provision for us, so, as a consequence, we got a dark lord, **John 12:31, John 14:30, John 16:11; John 5:19**.
- ✓ Satan is a big bad dog, but he's not free to roam! As believers, there are two extremes we have to avoid when it comes to this devil: one is to over-estimate him. **1st John 5:18-19**; He has no freedom to do what he wants or else we'd all be dead!
- ✓ Second = Don't underestimate him; temptation is his ruse to pull you close to him where he can get at you. When you give in to his temptation, you have entered his domain; he will devour you!

6. Can the devil really do this?

- ✓ Could he give it to whoever he wanted? Like I said, he mixes truth and lies trying to get you to come closer, **Acts 17:26; Daniel 4:17**. He can't deliver on what he's offering you; "you'll be happy, there'll be no consequences, you'll be free"; He can't deliver on his promises!

7. Jesus doesn't take him to task on his inconsistencies.

- ✓ Jesus was perfectly aware of verses like we have seen. He doesn't lecture the devil and He doesn't monologue about how he's a liar.

When it comes to temptation, don't linger, don't mull it over, don't try to dissect it; as soon as one thing is wrong about it, get out.