

The Temptation of Jesus

Read Luke 4:1-13

The Heavenly Father drove His own beloved Son, with Whom He was thoroughly pleased, into the desert alone, for 40 days without food, to be tempted by His bitter enemy, Satan, who wanted only Jesus' destruction.

How different is our Heavenly Father's treatment of His children compared to us human parents! We do anything we can to spare our children unpleasant circumstances. The Father, knowing what is best for us and how much we can bear, regularly exposes His children to various types of pressure and need. We tend to focus on our children's temporary comfort and preferences. Our Father focuses on our character and eternal well-being. We shouldn't squirm or complain like selfish children when He puts us through difficult-but-necessary preparations for His service.

Here Satan tried to turn Jesus away from His Father. Knowing that the key to Jesus' power was His relationship with His Father, Satan tried to separate them. He tried to turn Jesus toward His own needs.

Jesus stayed focused on His Father. In His responses to Satan, He always spoke of the Father's will. That was His constant concern.

That is also our key in temptation. When you first sense Satan's approach, turn to your Father. Ask for His provision, His will, and His glory. Nothing can shake you if you depend on Him.

*I have set the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.
(Psalm 16:8, NIV)*

*Facing temptation, Father,
I choose the pleasure of
pleasing You.*

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