**Wednesday Night Bible Study**

**Wednesday 25 May 2022**

**Queens Chapel UMC \* 7410 Muirkirk Road \* Beltsville, MD 20705**

**Instructor: Rev. Dr. Will Butler**

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**The Gospel of Luke**

**Luke 3:23 –** **4:1-13**

**Luke 3:23-38**

1. When we compare Matthew’s genealogy with Luke’s genealogy, we discover the following:
* Jesus was a legitimate heir of King David’s throne
* Joseph (the earthly father of Jesus) is responsible for Matthew’s genealogy
* Mary may be responsible for Luke’s genealogy—which moves backward from Christ to Adam
* Luke includes no women in his genealogy
* Because Jesus is related to King David, He was qualified to be the Messiah legally and physically.

**Luke 3:38**

 “the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.”

* Jesus is the promised one who was qualified to fulfill **Genesis 3:15**

 “And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

* The woman’s offspring (or her seed) is Jesus Christ who will defeat the serpent—who is Satan
* Satan could only bruise Christ heel—cause Christ to suffer on the cross
* Jesus Christ will bruise Satan’s head—destroy him with a fatal blow—**Romans 16:20**

 “And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.”

* Every believer has been given the power to “crush Satan” under their feet because of the finished work on the cross and Christ is within us.

 **Hebrews 2:14-15**

 14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

**1 John 4:4**

 “You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”

**Luke 4:1-13 “The Temptation of Christ”**

* What is temptation: Being enticed to do something wrong or immoral
* How is one tempted?

 **James 1:13**

 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone

* God’s provision for temptation:

 **1 Corinthians 10:13**

 “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”

* God permits trials to occur along with temptations but God promised not to allow temptations to become more than what the believer can endure.
* God always provides a way for the believer to escape
* The believer must make a choice whether to take the escape God provides or to give in to the temptation.

 **James 1:14-15**

 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.

 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

* When a believer is “drawn away” he/she is lured into Satan’s trap like an animal attracted by bait. In other words, temptation is promising something which is very harmful to one’s life.
* When verse 14 speaks of being drawn away “by his own desires” It is referring to the believer’s strong desire to fulfill his/her flesh (the old nature)
* Satan knows how to entice our flesh for what it desires. Each person’s is different—what tempts me may not entice you.
* Each event of temptation is spiritually programed to the cause or weakness of one’s heart.

**Matthew 15:18**

 18 "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man.

 19 "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

* Even though God provides the way of escape, Jesus Christ guarantees our deliverance.
* Why was Christ led into the wilderness?

**1 Corinthians 15:45**

 “And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.”

* The first Adam was thrown out of the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3)—the Garden of Eden symbolically is the presence of God
* Temptation is designed to take us out or make us ashamed or afraid to be in the presence of God
* **Jesus was led into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to be tempted by Satan, to overcome his temptations and to bring humanity back into the presence of God**

Let’s see how He does this:

 1 Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

 2 being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.

 3 And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."

 4 But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'"