**Wednesday Night Bible Study**

**Wednesday 08 June 2022**

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

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

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**The Gospel of Luke**

**Luke** **4:1-13**

Luke 4:

 9 Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here.

 10 "For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you,'

 11 "and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"

 12 And Jesus answered and said to him, "It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'"

 13 Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

2nd Temptation of Christ

**Luke 4:5-7**

 5 Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.

 6 And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.

 7 "Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours."

1. Satan is the ruler of the world—**John 14:30**

 "I will no longer talk much with you, **for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.**”

1. Satan is the god of this age—**(2 Corinthians 4:4)**
2. The world lies in the power of Satan—**1 John 5:19**

 “We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.”

* The ruler of the world means Satan rules the **system of darkness**
* Satan controls the evil system of influence, the attitude it produces and the wicked fruit that results from it
* Satan is the prince of all rebellion against God and God’s morality
* Though we do not see Satan physically, the influence of evil permeated our world and his power affects our communication with God

**Note: Daniel’s experience of Satan’s rule**

 *In this illustration, in the book of Daniel, spiritual demonic power controlled the Kingdom of Persia. Satan released a demon called the prince of Persia to interfere with Daniel’s prayer request to God for understanding. But God sent an angel to fight against this demonic force.*

**Daniel 10:12-13**

 12 Then he said, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer.

 13 But for twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me, and I left him there with the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia.

* Because of Satan’s rebellion against God, we are experiencing the fruit of evil through gun violence, murder, addictions, wars, sins against humanity, corrupt government, etc.
* Jesus called Satan a thief—**John 10:10**

 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

**Luke 4:8**

 “And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

1. Again, Jesus recites **Deuteronomy 6:13-14**

 13 "You shall fear the LORD your God and serve Him, and shall take oaths in His name.

1. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are all around you

**Luke 4:9**

 “9 Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here.”

 10 "For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you,'

 11 "and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"

* According to the Jewish historian Josephus, the pinnacle of the temple was probably a porch at the south-east corner of the temple complex. This porch was attached to a massive wall, 450 feet above the ground, that over-looked the Kidon Valley
* God made a promise in **Psalms 91:11-12**, and Satan knew it.

 11 For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways.

 12 In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

* Satan was tempting Jesus to present Himself as *[or prove Himself to be]* the Messiah by throwing Himself off the porch.
* By doing so, Jesus would obtain instant notoriety as the promised Deliverer without going to Calvary.

**Note: Jewish historian Josephus**

 *Titus Flavius Josephus (36-100 CE), was born Yosef ben Matityahu and became a 1st-century CE Jewish historian. He was a member of a priestly household in Jerusalem through his father’s side (the house and order of Jehoiarib), and his mother was of royal descent (Hasmonean). He was educated in Jerusalem and most likely shared ideology and sympathy with the party of the Pharisees.*

**https://www.worldhistory.org/**

**Luke 4:12**

 “And Jesus answered and said to him, "It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'"

1. Again, Jesus recites **Deuteronomy 6:16**

  “You must not test the Lord your God as you did when you complained at Massah.”

* There are acceptable and unacceptable ways of testing God in the Bible.
* It’s acceptable to “test” God in regard to tithes and offerings because we’re testing Him by faith

**Malachi 3:10 (NLT)**

 “Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, “I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!”

* It’s unacceptable when we test God out of doubt.

**Exodus 17:3-7 (NLT)**

 3 But tormented by thirst, they continued to argue with Moses. “Why did you bring us out of Egypt? Are you trying to kill us, our children, and our livestock with thirst?”

 4 Then Moses cried out to the Lord, “What should I do with these people? They are ready to stone me!”

 5 The Lord said to Moses, “Walk out in front of the people. Take your staff, the one you used when you struck the water of the Nile, and call some of the elders of Israel to join you.

 6 I will stand before you on the rock at Mount Sinai. Strike the rock, and water will come gushing out. Then the people will be able to drink.” So Moses struck the rock as he was told, and water gushed out as the elders looked on.

 **7 Moses named the place Massah (which means “test”) and Meribah (which means “arguing”) because the people of Israel argued with Moses and tested the Lord by saying,** **“Is the Lord here with us or not?”**

* The Israelites were in a situation where they needed God to move on their behalf. They tested God in the wrong way when they doubted Him by saying “Is the Lord here with us or not?”

* Israel came to the conclusion that God had abandoned them. Therefore, they questioned God’s reliability because He was not meeting their expectations.

**Homework**

Read Luke 4:14-29

* **What happened when Jesus returned to Galilee?**
* **What happened when He returned to His hometown, Nazareth?**
* **What was the point of their unbelief?**
* **After Jesus read the Scripture, what did they try to do to Him?**