

Are We Honoring Jesus as Lord – Part 2: Luke 4:1-13 ESV

When Jesus was Tempted, Did He Honor the Devil or God the Father?

Sunday, February 14 at 8:00 & 10:45

First Sunday in Lent – 2016

During Lent: Wednesday Services at 11 & 7; Meals at 12 & 6

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: Last Wednesday we learned how **our Lord**—*who is Jesus*, was perfectly obedient to **the Lord**—*God the Father*. What were two wonderful results? God's perfect works of creation and salvation!

Then, in part 1, since Jesus wants our best, *He told us exactly how we should* ♦give to the needy, ♦pray, and ♦fast *in order to be blessed!*

Today we return to the relationship between **our Lord**—*Jesus*, and **the Lord**—*God the Father*. Since Adam and Eve were tempted and fell☹, it was critical for Jesus to be tempted and stand☺!

¹ **And Jesus** [*right after His baptism, at the beginning of His ministry, and*], **full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness** ² **for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days** [of temptation]. **And when they were ended, he was hungry.** // Since Jesus had a need for food, who would He honor, who would He listen to – **the Devil** or **God the Father**?

1. **Prove It:** Has someone ever dared you, double-dared you, or even triple-dog-dared you to do something? If you said, “yes,” *then that person was controlling you!*
 - a. ³ **The devil said to [Jesus], “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become [a loaf of] bread.”**
 - i. Was Jesus hungry? *Yes!* Could Jesus have turned a stone into a loaf of bread? *Yes, Jesus is God the Son through whom the Father created all things!*
 - ii. Do you and I have abilities? *Yes!* Can we ignore Jesus and be a Frank Sinatra (My Way)?¹ *Yes!*
 - b. ⁴ **And Jesus answered him, “It [has been] written [in Deut. 8:3], ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’”**
 - i. The time of Moses: The LORD caused the people to hunger; then He provided them with manna. He was teaching the people to *trust in Him to provide their needs!*
 - ii. Jesus’ answer: He expressed His trust in His Father to provide His needs. What about us, in whom are we trusting – *ourselves or God?*
 1. Jesus said: “...seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things [thus all you need] shall be added to you” (Mt. 6:33 NAS).
 2. Paul wrote to the Philippians: “...my God shall supply all your needs” (Phil. 4:19 NAS).

When we trust in **our Lord Jesus**, ✓ we have God’s peace and ✓ we desire to do whatever **He** says!
2. **Take the Easy Way Out:** Many have been lured down that path, *so the devil hoped that Jesus would take the bait.* If

¹ <http://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/frank Sinatra/myway.html>

He did, ☹️the devil would win, ☹️Jesus would lose, and ☹️we would be lost forever!

- a. **5 And the devil took [Jesus] up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time** *[so the devil is very powerful]*, **6 and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.”**
 - i. Did the devil have such authority? Paul did call him “the god of this world [and Paul did write that he] has blinded the minds of the unbelievers” (2 Cor. 4:4 ESV). *So he does have much power!*
 - ii. What else is the devil? Jesus told us: “...he is a liar and the father of lies” (John 8:44 ESV). Did he try to deceive Jesus? *Yes!* Will he try to deceive us? *Yes!*
 - b. **8 And Jesus answered him, “It [has been] written** *[in Deut. 6:13; 10:12, 20; 1 Sam. 7:3]*, **‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’”** // The devil is very clever, so *his ideas can appear to be best*; for example: (1) Read your Bible when it is convenient (***but it never is***); (2) forgive others when they deserve it (***but they never do***); (3) pay your bills first, then give to God from what is left (***but that dishonors the Lord***).
3. **Put God to the Test:** There are times when **we should not**, but there are also times when **we should!**
- a. **9 And [the devil] took [Jesus] to Jerusalem and 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 [has been] written** *[in Psalm 91:11-12]*, **‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard** *[protect]* **you,’ 11 and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest**

you strike your foot against a stone.” // *That kind of a test* is foolish!

b. ¹² **And Jesus answered him, “It [has been] said [Deut. 6:16], ‘You shall not test / tempt / over tempt the Lord your God.’”**

i. When is testing **wrong**?

1. **When we question the Lord’s faithfulness:** The Israelites said, “Is the LORD among us or not” (Ex. 17:7 ESV)? *Every day He showed His presence!*
2. **When we make sinful demands:** “They tested God...by demanding the food they craved” (Psalm 78:18 ESV). Instead, *let us humbly receive.*

ii. When is testing **encouraged**?

1. **When we want to be sure of the God’s will:** Gideon said to God, “...let me make a test once more with the fleece” (Judges 6:39 NAS). *Good!*
2. **In our giving:** Malachi wrote: “Bring the full tithe into the storehouse... put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing” (Mal. 3:10 ESV). *I dare you!*

Conclusion: ¹³ **And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.**

// So more attacks were coming for our Lord Jesus, even as they are coming for us. Therefore, let us ➡take up God’s Word of Truth and ➡follow our Lord Jesus Christ!

Let us pray... And all God’s people said: **Amen!**