

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Give some examples of the three basic types of sin.
2. To which of these temptations are we most likely to yield?
3. What type of temptation is most difficult to discern?
4. What is necessary for us if we are to be able to overcome these temptations?
5. Could a fiery trial as described in 1 Peter 4:12 be considered a temptation? (Mark 1:13)
6. Is doubting a sin?

SUMMARY:

To be victors in the face of temptation we must use the same principles applied by Christ as He was tempted by the devil. We must first resist temptation promptly. A salesman early learns to attach much importance to the length of time between his offer and the answer of the prospective buyer. One who answers quickly and firmly cannot usually be expected to change his or her mind. This principle also applies as we resist temptation.

In addition, God's Word has promised that with temptation also comes a way of escape. (1 Corinthians 10:13) As in the case of Christ's temptation in the wilderness, the answer often lies in Scripture. Through a knowledge of God's Word, we can with the Psalmist of old say: "*Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee.*" (Psalm 119:11)

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #3

October 21, 2007

Fourth Quarter

VICTORY IN TEMPTATION

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 4:1-11

LESSON SETTING: Jesus in the wilderness

TIME: Approximately 30 AD

I. THE LUST OF THE FLESH. Matthew 4:1-4

- A. The Humanity of Christ
- B. Hunger (vs. 2) Genesis 25:29-30; Luke 4:2
- C. Supply the Need (vs. 3)
- D. Spiritual Food (vs. 4) Job 23:12; 1 Peter 2:2

II. THE PRIDE OF LIFE. Matthew 4:5-7

- A. Scriptures Wrested (vs. 6) Matthew 22:29; 2 Peter 3:16
- B. Vain Deceit (vs. 6) Colossians 2:8; Hebrews 13:9
- C. Resisting Temptation (vs. 7) Ephesians 6:13

III. THE LUST OF THE EYES. Matthew 4:8-11

- A. Earthly Vision (vs. 8) Psalm 119:37; Proverbs 4:25
- B. Earthly Honor (vs. 9) Psalm 49:12; John 5:44
- C. Earthly Reward (vs. 9) Deuteronomy 16:19
- D. Resist the Devil (vs. 10) Ephesians 4:27; 6:11; James 4:7

GOLDEN TEXT: *THOU SHALT WORSHIP THE LORD THY GOD,
AND HIM ONLY SHALT THOU SERVE.* *Matthew 4:10*

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Mark 1:14-34

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Isaiah 53:1-13; 61:1-3;
Matthew 8:14-17, 23-32;
Luke 4:31-41

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ - King and Savior

TOPIC: A MIGHTY MINISTRY

INTRODUCTION:

The ministry of Jesus while He was on this earth in human form was two-fold, both physical healing and spiritual healing. The physical healing was evidenced in multitudes of miracles of healing of the sick, the blind, the deaf, crippled folks and even raising of some of the dead. This healing often took the form of casting out demons from those so possessed. Jesus' authority was truly manifested over all of these things.

In the spiritual realm, Jesus called men from a way of sin, pardoning them with the words, "*thy sins be forgiven thee.*" He commanded them to "*sin no more.*" He taught them how to live their new life, being separated from the things of the world and walking according to the example He set for them. To those who followed Him, He gave power to witness. Today too, when Jesus calls us, He asks us to walk in this same way through the power of the Spirit and to serve Him. He can no longer minister to the people as He did when He was here on earth but He can, and does, minister through those who walk with Him. Our responsibility is not to look out for our own needs, but rather to go out as instruments used of Him to minister to the sick, the destitute, and to those broken by sin so that His saving grace can be known by many who are in need of His salvation.

CENTRAL TRUTH: The way to overcome temptation is through the Word.

GOLDEN TEXT: *COME YE AFTER ME, AND I WILL MAKE YOU TO BECOME FISHERS OF MEN.*

Mark 1:17

In the Gospel of John we are told that Andrew was one of the listeners who heard the message of John the Baptist and saw him as he baptized the Lord and heard the Spirit of God acknowledging the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God. We are told that Andrew was so impressed that he went immediately to his brother Simon Peter and told him that they had found the Messiah.

After this meeting, we are told that Jesus went into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. Peter and Andrew must have wondered as the days passed what change would come over their lives as a result of the meeting with Christ. They were not long in finding out as a short time later, Jesus came past the spot where they were fishing and uttered these wonderful words. We read of no hesitation on the part of Peter and Andrew, who had already tasted of the joy of fishing for men, as they left their tasks to follow Jesus.

Jesus asks those who have come face to face with Him today to forsake at least some of their earthly pastimes in favor of investing this time in fishing for men. Will you come as readily as these men?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF October 22 - 28

- M. Teaching the Disciples. Matthew 5:1-12
- T. Healing the Sick. Matthew 12:22-30
- W. Teaching the Multitude. Matthew 13:1-9
- T. *A Mighty Ministry. Mark 1:14-34
- F. Healing and Forgiving. Mark 2:1-12
- S. Commission to Minister. Luke 9:1-6
- S. Teaching an Inquirer. John 3:1-16