

Victory Over the Tempter

Promise: Jesus shares His victory over the devil with His followers

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Genesis 3:1-21; Psalm 32:10-8; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11
(First Sunday in Lent, 3/1/20)

Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him. – v. 11

Lead In – The devil does not leave baptized, believing Christians alone. In fact, it is after we become disciples that he really goes to work. So it ought to be a great comfort to us that our Lord Jesus engages the tempter after His baptism. And the comfort is all the more significant when we understand that Jesus' victory over the devil is done on our behalf and for our benefit!

I. Adam and Eve Encounter the Serpent

- A. The serpent seeks to plant seeds of doubt...
- B. Doubt and unbelief lead to disobedience...
- C. We might miss how death was the result...

II. Two Representatives, Two Head Sources

- A. Adam is the representative and head source...
- B. God elected a new head source...
- C. Sons of God by faith through baptism...

III. Jesus Accomplishes More Than Setting Example

- A. Again the devil seeks to plant doubt...
- B. Jesus' victory a prelude to a postlude...
- C. Faith in Christ equips you with all the armor...

Parting Shot – Think of Jesus, our eldest brother in the faith, as the world's heavyweight boxing champion. That he came to our defense, and will time and time again, does not mean that we can give up entirely trying to stay out of trouble. But it does mean, in spite of our frailty we can struggle against the opponent knowing that the victory has already, and will be won.

Gen 3:1b [The Serpent] said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'"

Gen 3:4 But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

First Command: You shall have no other gods. **Luther's expl:** We are to fear, love, and trust God above anything else.

Death alienates us from God, the life-source...

Gen 3:24 [The Lord God] drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

Rom 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—

Rom 5:19 For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Matthew 4:1-11 ESV

The Temptation of Jesus

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

Gal 3:26-27 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God himself elected. You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious. – "A Mighty Fortress"

Mat 4:3 "If you are the Son of God..." **Mat 4:6** "If you are the Son of God..."

Mat 4:3:15 But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."

Phil 2:8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

1 Pet 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

Eph 6:10-11 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

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