

“Satan's Mode of Operation”

Luke 4:1-13

Introduction

- I. We are commanded to resist and reject the devil (James 4:7; Eph. 4:27; 1 Pet. 5:8-9; 2 Cor. 2:11).
- II. Learning Satan's ways will help us in our spiritual war (1 Tim. 1:18-19).
- III. Let us focus on some lessons that can be learned by observing Jesus, His temptations, and His responses to the devil.

Discussion

- I. The devil entraps many due to their physical weaknesses (Luke 4:1-4).
 - A. Every person has frailties and difficulties at different stages of life.
 - B. Jesus had endured forty days of fasting, and no doubt the physical body was very weak.
 - C. This temptation falls into the category of “lust of the flesh” (1 John 2:15-17).
 - D. When we are physically weak, we might do things that we normally would not do (Matt. 26:41).
 - E. Knowing the Word of God, and how to use It appropriately, Jesus was able to endure the temptation (Luke 4:4).
- II. The devil captures many due to wants and desires (Luke 4:5-8).
 - A. While it is not wrong to advance in this life, we must be mindful that we should not do such to the detriment of our souls (Eccl. 5:18-6:2).
 - B. Living as a supposed carpenter's son was not necessarily a life of monetary affluence.
 - C. This temptation falls into the category of “lust of the eyes” (1 John 2:15-17).
 - D. Knowing the Word of God, and how to use it appropriately, Jesus was able to endure the temptation (Luke 4:8).
- III. The devil overcomes many due to pride and haughtiness (Luke 4:9-12).
 - A. While we may have abilities and blessings, we should not forget that all of those things come from God (James 1:17; Psm. 139:14).
 - B. Jesus could have easily demonstrated His superiority over Satan, but instead showed humility and meekness (James 4:10; 1 Pet. 5:6; cf. 2 Tim. 2:24-26).
 - C. This temptation falls into the category of “the pride of life” (1 John 2:15-17).
 - D. Knowing the Word of God, and how to use it appropriately, Jesus was able to endure the temptation (Luke 4:12).

Conclusion

- I. The devil is very good at what he does, but we can overcome him.
- II. Jesus endured every temptation that Satan could use, but Jesus never sinned (Heb. 4:15).
- III. If we know the Word of God, and how to use It appropriately, then we will be able to endure the temptation (Eph. 6:13)