

Living with Luke - Chapter 4

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Jesus' Temptation - Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."

⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone.'"

⁵ The devil led him up to a high place and

showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷ So if you worship me, it will all be yours."

⁸ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"

⁹ The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from

here. ¹⁰ For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; ¹¹ they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

¹² Jesus answered, "It says: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

¹³ When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

Our Temptations?

1. When are people tempted -

To provide for themselves?

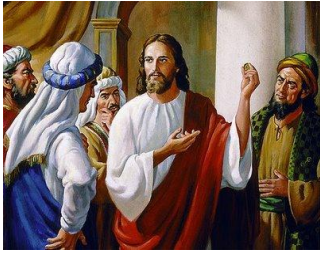
To get everything they can?

To do something to be popular?

2. What does this tell us about a purpose of Jesus' ministry?

3. What does this tell us about a purpose of our ministry here at CTK?

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In Jesus' day a visitor might be given the opportunity to read a portion of the Scriptures aloud in the worship service, and offer a brief comment on the reading. This might be especially true of a returning hometown boy like Jesus, but what He said to the people was certainly unexpected!

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. ¹⁷ The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the
prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to release the oppressed,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Isaiah 61:1-2

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, ²¹ and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself! Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'"

²⁴ "I tell you the truth," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his

hometown. ²⁵ I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷ And there were many in Israel with leprosy^[1] in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."

²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him down the cliff. ³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

1. What are the points of Jesus' agenda?
2. Why did the people of Nazareth get so upset with Him?
3. In what ways is the ministry of Christ the King on target with Jesus' agenda? In what ways is it not?
4. How comfortable are you with your answers to question 3?

Jesus Drives Out an Evil Spirit

³¹ Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath began to teach the people. ³² They were amazed at his teaching, because his message had authority.

³³ In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an evil spirit. He cried

out at the top of his voice, ³⁴ "Ha! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

³⁵ "Be quiet!" Jesus said sternly. "Come out of him!" Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without

injuring him.

³⁶ All the people were amazed and said to each other, "What is this teaching? With authority and power he gives orders to evil spirits and they come out!" ³⁷ And the news about him spread throughout the surrounding area.

THE PEOPLE OF NAZARETH DID NOT WANT TO ADMIT THE TRUTH OF JESUS' CLAIMS, BUT THE DEMONS KNEW!



Jesus Heals Many

³⁸ Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. ³⁹ So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.

⁴⁰ When the sun was setting, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. ⁴¹ Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Christ.

⁴² At daybreak Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. ⁴³ But he said, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." ⁴⁴ And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.



The Magnificat – Luke 1:46-55

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

“My soul glorifies the Lord
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in
 God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has been mindful
 of the humble state of his
 servant.

From now on all
 generations will call me
 blessed,
⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has
 done great things for me—
 holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His **mercy extends** to
 those who fear him,
 from generation to
 generation.

⁵¹ **He has performed
 mighty deeds** with his arm;
 he has **scattered those
 who are proud** in their
 inmost thoughts.

⁵² He has **brought down
 rulers** from their thrones
 but has **lifted up the
 humble**.

⁵³ He has **filled the hungry**
 with good things
 but has **sent the rich
 away empty**.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant
 Israel,
 remembering to be
 merciful

⁵⁵ to Abraham and his
 descendants forever,
 just as he promised our
 ancestors.”

People and Demons

Describe Jesus’ attitude and strategy with regard to

- People
- Demons
- Sickness

Describe the attitudes and responses of the people in these stories to Jesus

Describe the attitudes and strategies of today’s “church” with regard to

- People
- Demons
- Sickness
- Jesus

MAGNIFICAT SCORECARD – Luke2:41-52

ACTIONS OF GOD	YES	NO
Extended mercy		
Performed mighty deeds		
Scattered the proud		
Brought down rulers		
Lifted up humble		
Filled the hungry		
Sent rich away empty		

More on the web at

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