

Luke 4:1-14

Temptation in the Wilderness

Luk 4:1 & 14 KJV And Jesus being **full** of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was **led** by the Spirit into **the wilderness**, ...14 And Jesus returned in **the power** of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.

Jesus' & The Holy Spirit

Full of the Holy Ghost

- This happened in Luk 3:21-22 when Jesus was baptized22 And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him
- The meaning of full shows - to be full so as to have an overflow of some kind
- **Examples**
 - Luk_4:28 - "filled" with wrath and moved to throw him over the cliff
 - Act_2:4 - "filled" with the Holy Ghost - spoke in tongues
 - Act_5:17 - Sadducees were "filled" with indignation - for gate beautiful

Led by the Spirit ...[NOTICE - into the wilderness]

- The word led has the idea of someone bringing you or taking you somewhere
- Some translations use the word - the spirit "**drove**" him into the wilderness
 - Luk_4:9 - the devil "brought" him to Jerusalem - pinnacle of the temple
 - Luk_4:29 - the crowd "led" him to the brow of the hill
 - Luk_4:40 - they "brought" to him all that were sick and diseased
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 - Luk_23:1 - the multitude "led" him to Pontius Pilate

Jesus returned in the **Power** of the Spirit

- This is the word Dunamis
 - Luk_4:36 - with "power" he commands unclean spirits and they leave
 - Luk_9:1 - disciples "power" and authority over all devils and cure diseases

Application - His desire is that that we are FULL of the Spirit, LED by the Spirit and EMPOWERED by the Spirit

- Eph 5:18 Be not drunk with wine - but be FILLED with the Spirit - under the influence of
- Romans 8:14 KJV For as many as are LED by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.
- Luk_24:49 - wait in Jerusalem until you are endued with "POWER"

The Wilderness

Jesus **RETURNED** in the power of the Spirit - Returned from where? - **The Wilderness**

NOTE: the empowerment came on the other side of the wilderness

- There is a process of sorts - ***full of -> led by -> power of***
- The process takes us ***through the wilderness***
- In fact it is ***the Spirit that leads us*** to the wilderness

Definition of wilderness

lonesome, that is, (by implication) *waste* (usually as a noun, G5561 being implied): - desert, desolate, solitary, wilderness

- Wilderness = ***LONESOME*** - desolate & solitary - **you must go there alone**
 - No one can do this for you, no one can share your experience
- Wilderness = ***WASTE*** - desert - no human comforts
 - It is not a place you would likely choose on your own
 - **Yet the outcome of the wilderness is what we want**
 - Maybe that is why the spirit drives us there

Wilderness prepares us for usefulness

- At first he thought God would use him to deliver them (see Act 7:25)
- Then he spent 40 years in the wilderness (see Acts 7:30)
- Now he wasn't so self-assured (see Exo 3:11) "Who am I, that I should go...?"
- But he went with the Power of God (see Exo 3:14) "I AM hath sent me unto you"

Wilderness prepares us for war

- Exodus 13:17-18 KJV And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure ***the people repent when they see war***, and they return to Egypt: (18) But God led the people about, through ***the way of the wilderness*** of the Red sea: and the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt.
- Joshua 4:13 KJV About ***forty thousand prepared for war*** passed over before the LORD unto battle, to the plains of Jericho.

The Wilderness reveals the place of our hearts

- Deu 8:2-3 KJV And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to ***humble*** thee, and to ***prove*** thee, ***to know what was in thine heart***, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

The Wilderness is to do us good at the latter end

- Deu 8:15-16 KJV Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint; 16 Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might ***humble*** thee, and that he might ***prove*** thee, ***to do thee good at thy latter end***;

Application - If you are in the wilderness rejoice, He is preparing you for usefulness

Luk 4:2 KJV 2 Being forty days **tempted** of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered...

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness - He doesn't lead us there to fall - He leads us there to taste victory

- Joshua 10:24-25 KJV And it came to pass, when they brought out those kings unto Joshua, that Joshua called for all the men of Israel, and said unto the captains of the men of war which went with him, ***Come near, put your feet upon the necks of these kings.*** And they came near, and put their feet upon the necks of them. (25) And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.
- 1 Corinthians 10:13 KJV (13) There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, ***who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able;*** but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

The three temptations

Luk 4:3-4 KJV 3 And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread. 4 And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.

1) Appetites

Appetites - "command this stone that it be made bread"

- Appetites ... is my heart tuned to my physical need only or ***am I dialed in to my true spiritual need?***
- What is it that you hunger for? What drives and motivates me? ***There is a hunger that can never be satisfied apart from our relationship with Him***
 - Isa 29:8 KJV It shall even be as when an hungry man dreameth, and, behold, he eateth; but he awaketh, and his soul is empty: or as when a thirsty man dreameth, and, behold, he drinketh; but he awaketh, and, behold, he is faint, and his soul hath appetite: so shall the multitude of all the nations be, that fight against mount Zion.
 - Mat 5:6 KJV Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
 - Joh 6:35 KJV And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.
 - Psa 107:9 KJV For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.

APPLICATION - Am I dialed in to my spiritual hunger? - Or are my appetites simply a reflection of things of the world that can never really satisfy?

Luk 4:5-8 KJV

2) Worship and Serve Him Only

5 And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. 7 If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. 8 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, **Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.**

All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them

The second temptation is about trusting God. Will I take shortcuts to God's plan or will I choose to worship Him, surrender to Him and trust His plan and timing?

Jesus' path to glory and power was only through the cross...

- Revelation 5:12 KJV Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Satan will tempt us to short circuit or circumnavigate the difficult decisions - but we will be sustained by our commitment of worship and service of God...this is about our center of worship - **worship and serve HIM ONLY**

APPLICATION - What is my center of worship? Does my worship of God result in surrender to His will - or am I still doing my own thing?

Luk 4:9-14 KJV

3) The Foolish Test

9 And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: 10 For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: 11 And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. 12 And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. 13 And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season. 14 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.

They put God to Test in the Wilderness - Is the LORD among us?

- Exo 17:6-7 KJV Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 And he called the name of the place Massah, and Meribah, because of the chiding of the children of Israel, and because **they tempted the LORD, saying, Is the LORD among us, or not?**
- Deut 6:16 You shall not tempt the LORD as you did at Massah

APPLICATION - What is my view of God's care for me?

Is it circumstantial - like Job's wife? Or can I trust regardless of circumstance?

