

## TEMPTATION

Introduction – The full humanity of Jesus, which he retains through eternity, assures us he understands our struggles (Hebrews 4:15).

### A. The Classic Temptation of Christ – Matthew 4:1-11

Where Adam, Israel, and Job failed in their temptation Jesus overcame through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God, and angelic support (Hebrews 11:14)

### B. Sometimes we forget that Jesus' life was filled with temptations to compromise his identity (Luke 4:13).

1. The religious leaders tempted Jesus – Mark 8:11-13
2. Jesus was tempted by Peter – Mark 8:31-33
3. Jesus' enthusiastic followers tempted him – John 6:14-15
4. Jesus' family tempted him – John 7:1-8
5. One of the apostles was the devil – John 6:70-71
6. At the conclusion of the Last Supper Jesus reveals that his entire ministry was a trial – Luke 22:28-29
7. The garden of Gethsemane was a time of temptation. Luke 22:39-46
8. The last temptation of Christ was on the cross – Luke 23:32-43

### C. What can we learn from the teaching and example of Jesus in dealing with temptation?

1. Do not shift the blame for your temptation to God – James 1:12-15
2. Like Jesus, we must identify the ultimate source of our temptation – James 4:7
3. Look for an opportunity to escape temptation – 1 Corinthians 10:13
4. Remember there is potential good resulting from being tempted – 1 Peter 1:3-7

Conclusion – We must not let Satan discourage us because of all our trials. Our faith enables us to see through the suffering to the glorious and joyful future that God has prepared for us (Hebrews 12:2-3).

## Discussion Questions

1. How does Satan tempt us to compromise our identity in Christ?
2. What principles can we learn from Jesus to assist us when we face temptation?
3. How do we keep ourselves from losing heart and being discouraged?