

December 13th Sunday 2015

Text: Luke 4:1-3

Topic: How to overcome temptation

God will never tempt His creature to the point of his committing sins. His promises and assurances to mankind are that we will pass through water and like the Israelites in the Red sea, it will not submerge us or through fire, like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Dan. 3:17), it will not consume us.

Temptations are part of Christian living in faith and hope strengthening. Be versatile in His "WORD," remain strong to conquer the devil and his works. Jesus experiences in today's text (vs. 1-3) attest to one thing, that all are liable to be tempted.

Jesus Christ was led away from human society into the wilderness, and was tempted of the devil. Do not suppose that it is only the worldly-minded who have dreadful thought and blasphemous temptations, for even spiritual minded persons endure the same; and in the holiest position we may suffer the darkest temptation. The utmost consecration of spirit will not insure you against satanic temptation.

Lesson: Live holy to overcome temptation

Prayer: Lord, keep us watchful in all seasons, and give us a final escape from the jaw of the Lion and the paw of the Bear. Amen.

December 14th Monday 2015

Text: Luke 8:43-47

Topic: Instant faith healing

The text of today demonstrates faith healing of a woman with twelve years of incurable blood flow (v.43). The woman was very ignorant, but believed that virtue could come from Christ by a law of necessity. Had she known the love of Jesus' heart, she would have asserted, "I have but to put myself where He can see me – His omniscience will teach Him my case, and His love at once will work my cure." We admire her faith, but we marvel at her ignorance. After she had obtained the cure, she rejoiced with trembling: she feared lest Christ should retract the blessing, and put venom upon the grants healing.

Little did she understand the full nest of His love! We lack deep knowledge of His power and the heights and depths of His love but we know for sure that He will not withdraw from a repentant soul the gift of a divine healing. But here, comprehend the marvel of her knowledge, real faith, which saved her at once. There was no tedious delay – faith's miracle was instantaneous. If we have faith as a grain of mustard seed, salvation is our present and eternal possession. If we dare not lean our heads upon His bosom with John, yet if we can venture in the press behind Him, and touch the hem of his garment, we are made whole. Courage, and spiritual boldness and nothing less can earn for us the mercy, grace and wholesome healing of the Lord.

Lesson: Just a little faith

Prayer: Grant me O Lord, a faith that can move mountains no matter how high. Amen.

December 15th Tuesday 2015

Text: Luke 7:1-10

Topic: A Great Faith

The Roman Centurion's servant was sick, and this Centurion had done some wonderful things for the Jews. So they said to Jesus, "This man deserves to have you do this, because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue." Without commenting, Jesus went with them.

When we are under the illusion that we deserve something from Jesus, we miss the opportunity for the miracle that can happen in us. Soon Jesus received a message from the centurion himself, who didn't talk in terms of what deserved; "Lord..... I do not deserve to have you come under my roof..... But say the word, and my servant will be healed." In response, Jesus praised this man's great faith. He was pleased with confident faith of a military man who loved his servant enough to believe Jesus could do a miracle of sheer mercy.

Lesson: Faith in Jesus is found when we come to him with empty hands and an open heart rather than an attitude of deserving. What derives you to Jesus? "Deserving" has nothing to do with it.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, derive us back to simple faith in you and your kingdom. Open our hearts to come to you for healing. In your name we pray Amen.

December 16th Wednesday 2015

Text: Luke 1:39-45

Topic: Humility

Immediately after receiving Angel Gabriel's message, Mary, the mother of our Lord Jesus prepared to visit Elizabeth some 60 miles south of Nazareth in Judean territory, where she remained for about 3 months. Elizabeth was suddenly filled with the Holy Spirit when she saw Mary (v. 41). In fact, her words in verses 42-45 indicate that God gave her prophetic knowledge of Mary's condition. In any position you find yourself blessed is she who has believed that, which the Lord has said to her, will be accomplished (v.45).

Among the virtues of Christianity, is humility. Our Lord's service in the world was that of humility personified. As God says, He opposes the pride, but gives grace to the humble (1 Peter 5:5). He humbled himself to be baptized by John the Baptist (Luke 3:21-22), and at the end of his ministry, He humbled Himself unto death (Philippians 2:1-11). In the service of God, there should be humility whether being a president, temporal or spiritual Lord, a general or war Lord. In the house of God, all are equal before Him.

Lesson: The reward of humility is exaltation. Humble yourself and you will be exalted (Luke 14:11)

Prayer: Lord, grant me the grace to be humble always.

December 17th Thursday 2015

Text: Luke 1:57-66

Topic: Favor by God

For Elizabeth in her old age to have the blessing of the womb was the favor of God. God's Favor is not limited by age and does not respect your personal condition. The birth of John opened the father's mouth. Loosed his tongue and began to speak (v 64) indicating that when the fullness of God's favor is complete, all other impediments,

doubt's fear, inability, discouragement, failure and all other oppositions will disappear from the beneficiary of such as happened to Zachariah.

Are you in any hard situation today? Do you desire the favor of God in your business and in any aspect of your life? Then seek God's divine favor now and you will be surprised that all other oppositions will be gone.

Lesson: God's favor can be gathering if you make the little disposition towards recognizing His existence, goodness and compassion.

Prayer: Lord, let it be my turn to be favor. Amen.

December 18th Friday 2015

Text: Luke 9:10-17

Topic: Five + Two + Jesus = Miracle

Most importantly, the presence of Jesus is the miracle we miss when we think it's up to us to make things happen.

The disciples had just returned from a mission on which they had done amazing things for the kingdom of God. They had healed diseases, driven out demons, and predated the message of Jesus with power. They were full of stories and full of themselves. They had done all those miracles without the physical presence of Jesus.

Then when the disciples saw that a huge crowd of people around them needed food, Jesus made a simple request: "you give them something to eat". They quickly reduced the power of Jesus to mathematics: five loaves and two fishes equal starvation. But Jesus' math worked this way: five + two + Jesus = miracle. Jesus took the gift of bread and fish and made a meal for everyone. He gave thanks to the father, and he fed the people.

Lesson: Jesus does this all the time. Give your meager resources to Jesus and let him work kingdom miracles.

Prayer: Jesus, you are Lord of all things. Help me to trust you for all my needs and for the needs of others. Also work through me, as you will, to help meet others' needs. In your name I pray. Amen.

December 19th Saturday 2015

Text: Luke 1:26-38

Topic: The Birth of Jesus for told

From the text before us today, we see Angel Gabriel again with a message but this time Mary. Mary was a virgin that had not been married. It takes an obedient woman to accept this message. In verse 38, Mary did not doubt the powers of God but committed everything to Him. During this time, Mary had pledged to be married to Joseph. But how will Joseph react to this? What will people say on this unbelievable message? Life in Nazareth was an independent Life style, and Mary could be suspected of many things. While the people at that period rationalized the event, God was simply bringing to pass that which He had purposed. People of the world analyze events from a secular point of view because they know little of God's plan for the world. From what point of view do you analyze events in the world today? As a child of God, I must learn to analyze events from a biblical point of view. Do you spend time to study scripture enough to help you analyze events leading to the second coming of Christ?

Lesson: Do you know enough God's words to act like Mary.

Prayer: Lord, we thank you because everything that comes from you is aimed at glorifying your name. Amen.