

Tested in the Wilderness

Luke 4:1–13

Main Point: The temptation of Jesus serves more than just a manual for how to endure the testings of Satan (although it certainly is not less than that). Luke records for us the temptation of Jesus to display (1) the identity of Jesus as the Son of God, (2) the life of perfect obedience He lived right from the outset of His ministry, and (3) the victory over Satan which Jesus powerfully displays at all points in His ministry. In short, *Jesus is the righteous Son of God whose perfect life of obedience and glorious victory over Satan secures the certainty of our own spiritual victory in Him.*

Exposition

I. The Setting (4:1–2)

A. The Wilderness

B. Led by the Spirit

C. Weak

II. The Temptation (4:3–13)

A. Temptation #1

1. Satan—If you are God, tell the stones to become bread.

2. Jesus—Scripture: “Man shall not live by bread alone” (Deut. 8:3)

B. Temptation #2

1. Satan—I possess this domain; worship me and it is yours.

2. Jesus—Scripture: “Worship and serve God alone” (Deut. 6:13)

C. Temptation #3

1. Satan—Throw yourself from the pinnacle of the temple and the angels will protect you (cf. Ps. 91:11–12)
2. Jesus—Scripture: You shall not put the Lord your God to the test (Deut. 6:16)

Truth

III. We have victory of sin, death, and hell for the following reasons:

A. Jesus is the Son of God (Messiah)

B. Jesus is the Perfect Representative

1. Adam—tested in the garden with perfect environment
2. Jesus—tested in the barren wasteland

C. Jesus is the Powerful Redeemer