Luke 4:1-13

Review…

- **The Gospel of Luke…**
  - The focus of Luke is on the humanity of Jesus – showing Him as the perfect flawless man…
  - Key Verse **- Luke 19:10** - "The Son of Man has come to seek and save that which was lost."
- **Luke 1:5 - 2:52 - The birth and early years of Jesus…**
- **Luke 3:1-20 - The minsitry of John the Baptist…**
  - 1st - The Word of God came to John in the wilderness...
    - Preaching a baptism of repentance - showing men were all sinners - needed saving
    - Preparing the way for the Messiah - once we know the problem ready for the answer
  - 2nd - Warning people to bear fruit worthy of repentance...
    - Words are easy - John challenged the people to show repentance in their actions...
    - If not - the ax was laid to the root - and God was ready to cut down the tree!
  - After John baptized Jesus (*the end of his ministry*) he was arrested by Herod Antipas...
- **Luke 3:21-28 - The beginning of Jesus' minsitry…**
  - When Jesus was baptized - the Holy Spirit came down - the voice of the Father...
  - He began his ministry when He was 30 years old...
  - The Genealogy of Jesus in Luke...
    - The Genealogy of Mary - descendent of King David through Nathan - Jehoiakim curse
    - The son of King David - **II Samuel 7:16** / Seed of Abraham - **Genesis 22:18**
    - The son of Adam - one man's sin brought death / one man's sacrifice gave life!

The Temptation of Jesus

- **Led by the Spirit - into the wilderness… vs. 1**
  - Jesus returned from His baptism in the Jordan - Full of the Holy Spirit...
    - And was constantly being led by the Spirit (*Imperfect/Passive/Indicative*)...
    - Jesus lived His life - being guided and directed by the Holy Spirit!
    - We are also called to walk in the Spirit - **Romans 8:1, Galatians 5:16**...
    - When we are in a place where we don't know what to do - where to go...
    - If we are wondering where to work - who to marry - where to go to school...
    - God gives us His Holy Spirit to show us the way - He is there to direct our steps...
    - What does He sound like - **II Kings 19:12** - a still small voice - gentile guidance...
    - God will never contradict His Word - **I Corinthians 14:32** - guiding our lives!
    - But we have to learn to sit - wait - and listen - or we will miss the voice of the Lord...
  - Led by the Spirit into the wilderness...
    - The Holy Spirit led Jesus - to be tempted by satan!
    - If that were not bad enough - He was to be tempted in the wilderness...
    - Wilderness - solitary, lonely, desolate, deprived of the aid and the protection of others...
    - Walking in the Spirit - does not mean everything in life will be easy - no troubles…
    - God does not promise we will have an easy life if we choose to follow Him...
    - In fact just the opposite - God promises us we WILL HAVE trials!

- Often we will face those trials alone - there will be no one who can help us...
- * **John 16:3** – "I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."
- If times are easy - no problems - we tend to forget about God - depend on ourselves...
- But when we have no money / food / are being attacked for our faith - LOTS of prayer!
- God will allow us - bring us into trials - so that we learn the most important lesson…
- We must learn not to trust in ourselves - or other people - instead learn to trust in God!

- **40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS… VS. 2**
  - There he was tempted by satan for 40 days and 40 nights…
    - Forty is the number of trials or temptation in the Bible…
    - Noah, Moses in Midian, Children of Israel's wandering…
    - Jesus was lead by the Spirit into the wilderness for 40 days – a trial...
  - Jesus had to go through the wilderness temptation before He began His ministry...
    - We want God to use us – we want to draw closer to the Lord - but…
    - Often we will find that before God a work through us – He first does one in us!
    - Do not be surprised if you ask God to use you - only to find you are in a trial...
    - * **I Peter 4:12** – "Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you."
    - God preparing us – molding us – shaping us – into Godly men and women!

- **THE 3 TEMPTATIONS OF SATAN… VS. 3-12**
  - If you are the Son of God...
    - It would appear that satan questions who Jesus really is – 'if you are…'
    - In fact in the Greek he affirms who Jesus is - better translated - 'since you are...'
    - Satan is not questioning who Jesus is – he is declaring it! Jesus is the Son of God!
  - 1st - Turn this stone into bread... vs. 3-4
    - During those 40 days Jesus had nothing to eat...
      - There are 3 stages a person goes through in a fast that lasts 40 days...
      - 1st - in the first 2 to 3 days you are very hungry - because you are used to eating...
      - 2nd - but from day 4-30+ - you loose the desire to eat - body lives off stored energy...
      - 3rd - approaching day 40 - the body has burned up all excess energy - fat/muscle...
      - It begins to have to digest its own organs to survive - starvation sets in...
      - Hunger returns with a vengeance - if you do not start eating again - you will die...
      - So at the end of the 40 days - Jesus was VERY hungry!
    - Satan came and commanded him to make a stone into bread - a very real temptation...
      - Ever been hungry and you mind play tricks on you - everything looks like food...
      - I am sure satan pointed to a rock that looked just like a loaf of bread...
      - Satan will not try and temp you with something you do not want...
      - He seems to know just how to get to us - he knows right where we are weak...
    - Jesus could have given in - turned the stone to bread…
      - No doubt He had the ability – He took 5 loaves and 2 fish and fed 5000 - **John 6**...
      - But if He had then he would have trusted in His strength and not in the Father's...
      - Satan would love to get us to rely on ourselves rather than on God...

- The moment we rely on our ability – get our eyes off God- we loose...
- Instead Jesus quotes **Deuteronomy 8:3**
  - We do not just live for the physical (*just for rice*) we live for God!
  - Satan loves to distract us from Jesus - by getting us focused on our daily needs…
  - When we worry about what we will eat / drink / wear...
  - When we focus on the 'physical needs' of this life - we are not focused on Jesus...
  - **Matthew 6:21** - "Don't worry about having enough food or drink or clothing."
  - Our Father in heaven knows what we need - and promises to provide - only...
  - **Luke 12:31** – "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness…"
  - If we are only living for the 'rice' of this life - we miss the riches God intends for us...
  - It is in God's Word - the 'Bread of Life' - we find true life!
  - Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes out of God's mouth!

o 2nd - Satan offers all the nations of the world to Jesus... vs. 5-8

- Satan claims to be the ruler of the world...
  - Jesus does not argue the validity of satan's claim – satan owned the world...
    - All satan's authority - glory - he had the power to give to whomever he choose...
    - It had been given to him to him (*Perfect/Passive/Indicative*)...
    - When you buy a property - your proof of ownership is your 'Title Deed'...
    - God created the world - gave the 'Title Deed' to Adam & Eve - **Genesis 1:28-30**
    - When Adam & Eve choose to sin in the garden - rebel against God - **Genesis 3**
    - They handed over the 'Title Deed' of the world to satan...
    - **II Corinthians 4:4 / John 14:30** - satan is called the god and ruler of this world...
  - Jesus came to 'buy back' the 'Title Deed' that had been lost…
    - The cost - was the cross - Jesus had to pay the price for sin!
    - *** Revelation 5:2-5** - we are told the no one could open the scroll - 'Title Deed'...
    - John wept - no one was able to 'redeem' the world that had been lost to satan...
    - But the Angel said do not weep - Behold the Lion of the Tribe of Judah - Jesus!
    - Jesus did redeem the world - He purchased back what had been lost!
- But satan was offering to give it to Jesus without having to die on the cross...
  - The only catch – Jesus had to bow down and worship satan (*Aorist*)...
    - Just once - one bow - a simple act - and satan would give it all to Jesus!
    - But though Satan could give Jesus the kingdoms of this world...
    - He could not redeem the hearts of men and give them eternal life!
  - The only way for Jesus to fully redeem man was to go to the cross...
    - If satan cannot get us completely caught up/distracted by the world...
    - Then he will try to get to divide our loyalties - compromise our walk with God...
    - Compromise is a very slow process - starts with one simple bend of the knee...
    - One drink / one lie / one Sunday / one kiss - how much could it hurt...
- Instead Jesus quotes **Deuteronomy 6:13**
  - Jesus saw through satan's tempting ruse - He refused to compromise...
  - Get behind me satan! You shall worship the Lord your God - only serve Him!
  - Notice it does not just say - 'I' will worship - Jesus says 'You' will worship...
  - One day satan will bow his knee to Jesus too - **Philippians 2:10**
  - You cannot go in two directions at the same time - you cannot worship two things...

- * **Matthew 6:24** - "No one can serve two masters..."
- We choose who we worship - in the simple seemingly insignificant choices of life...
- We are either going to be devoted to the world - to the pursuit of money/pleasure...
- Or we are going to be devoted to the Lord - worshiping and following Him!

o 3rd - The pinnacle of the Temple... vs. 9-12
- Satan quotes from **Psalms 91:11-12** tempting Jesus to temp the Father...
  - Satan knows God's Word - and he is willing to misuse it - to confuse people...
  - Satan does not misquote the Psalm - what he does is take it out of context...
  - Sometimes we can take the Bible out of its context...
  - Nowhere in Psalms 91 does it suggest that we should tempt the Lord...
  - Most errant doctrines / many of the cults / and untold confusion about God's Word...
  - Comes from a misuse of God's Word - taking it out of context...
  - Context is critical when it comes to properly interpreting the Bible!
  - We need to be wise - get into God's Word - see if what is said is true!
  - **Acts 17:11** - "They received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."
- Satan was challenging Jesus - is God faithful to His Word...
  - If God says He will catch you if you jump - do you trust He will do what He says!
  - If satan cannot get us distracted by our daily needs / or get us to compromise...
  - He will try to get us to doubt God - to question His Word!
  - The first question mark '?' in the Bible - comes in **Genesis 3:1**
  - Satan asked Eve - 'Has God indeed said?' - he wanted Eve to question God's Word...
  - Satan's tactics have not changed – he still tries to get us to doubt the Word...
  - He wants us to question if God is faithful/able to help – look elsewhere for answers...
  - He tries to keep us from church from the Bible – from listening to/reading the Word!
- Instead Jesus quotes **Deuteronomy 6:16 -** You shall not temp the Lord your God...
  - Jesus was not thrown off by satan's misuse of God's Word - out of context...
  - Jesus knew better - He knew God's Word - He knew God is faithful to His Word...
  - There is no need for us to test the Lord - He has already proven Himself...
  - He has always taken care of us - never failed us - and He never will - **Hebrews 13:8**

o The devil departed from Jesus... vs. 13
- When satan had ended every temptation...
  - Satan came at Jesus from every direction - daily food / compromise / testing God...
  - And each time Jesus had stood the test - without sin...
  - **Hebrews 4:15** - "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin."
  - Every time Jesus response to satan was to quote from the Word of God
  - **James 4:7** – "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."
  - The key to standing against satan is the Word of God - **Ephesians 6:13**
  - He is powerless when we come against him with God's Word
  - It is as we are in the Word (*and the Word in us*) that we stand in the trials...
- Until a more opportune time...
  - Satan would be back - the next time he would come to betray and crucify Jesus...
  - We overcome satan through God's Word - but victory does not mean no more trials...

- Trials in life are like storms - they come and go - but in Jesus we will never be moved!