

Gospel of Jesus Christ

According to St Mark

#3

Chapter 1: 12-13

“The Temptation of our Lord”

Mar 1:12 And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness.

Mar 1:13 And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.

Note 1;

The common use of the word:

“Immediately”

In this gospel.

17 times it is found in Mark.

There is another word like it.

“Straightway” found 19 Times in Mark.

There is in these two words the idea of:

Action! Urgency! Speed!

This is the Character of this gospel as recorded by Mark.

Note 2;

The phrase:

“the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness”

First:

What it does not mean.

{Barnes}

The Spirit driveth - *The word “driveth” does not mean that he was compelled forcibly against his will to go there,*

Second:

What it does mean

{Barnes}

but that he was inclined to go there by the Spirit, or was led there. The Spirit of God, for important purposes, caused him to go.

In Luke 4: 1

We have a helpful rendering.

Luk 4:1 *And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,*

“being full of the Holy Ghost”

Πλήρης *p̄lērēs* *play'-race*

From G4130; replete, or covered over; by analogy complete: - full.

Consider:

Christ was never moved by man or men but ever only by the Spirit of his God.

There was no better way to take on the Devil but in the Spirit and Power of God.

Note 3;

Where did the Spirit Bring him?

“into the wilderness”

Some imagine that when we follow Christ that it will make our lives easier and more pleasant.

Not so.

To follow Christ can often mean great times of Trial.

Consider:

The words of our Lord to his Disciples, as He warns them how they will be treated by those to whom they preach.

Mat 10:22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

Mat 10:23 But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.

Mat 10:24 *The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord.*

Mat 10:25 It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?

Note 4;

The Circumstances of his Temptation.

Mar 1:13 And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.

Consider;

The differences between Adams circumstances and Christ's in their Temptations.

Adam was in Paradise === Christ in the Wilderness

Adam had a full Stomach === Christ was in Hunger

Adam had his Wife === Christ was Alone

Adam; surrounded by submissive creatures === Christ;
surround by wild Animals.

Adam; one Temptation and succumbed === Christ; tempted
at least 3 times over 40 days and resisted.

Adam had no need to give in === Christ was in great need
yet he was Resisted.

Note 5;

God's comfort follows Temptation.

We read in verse 13:

"the angels ministered unto him"

Note 6;

**The Blessings which flow from Victory over
Temptation.**

Read Luke 4: 14-15

Luk 4:14 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.

Luk 4:15 And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all.

Also:

Verses 16-21

Show the tremendous confidence that exuded from the Saviour.

Note 7

Application.

Let us learn to be like the Lord in this area of our lives.

Satan will seek to convince us that Victory is impossible for us.

But:

1Jn 4:4 *Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*

Rom 8:37 *Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.*