

Ministry is Made Powerful by the Holy Spirit and Word of God

This new section in the ministry of Christ moves Him from being *declared* the Son of God to now *proving* He is the Son of God. This will happen through authoritative teaching and demonstrations of miraculous power that act as signs and wonders. The beginning of His public ministry of about three years starts here. (Remember that in John 2:1-12 at the wedding in Cana, Jesus said, “My time has not yet come”, 2:4).

“Shabbat Synagogue Readings: The Law (Torah) and the Prophets are read. They are divided into 54 sections with one section read each Sabbath. At least three verses of both the prophets and the Law were to be read. The scrolls are always read while standing up. Rabbis, in Jesus day, always sat to teach.” Arnold Fruchtenbaum.

The problem here is that Jesus only reads on half of the minimum amount of verses required, then sits down (Luke 4:20). The verses He read end at the first part of Isaiah 62:2, *“The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”* At that point Jesus claims this verse has been fulfilled, but the second half of the verse would not be fulfilled while He was on earth, *“and the day of vengeance of our God.”* That will be fulfilled at His Second Coming. This is also a direct claim to be the Messiah, hence the reactions in 4:22 and 4:28.

“Authoritative teaching required previous authorization. Indeed, this logically followed from the principle of Rabbinism. All [Rabbinical] teaching must be authoritative, since it was traditional – approved by authority, and handed down from teacher to teacher. The highest honor of a scholar was, that he was like a well-plastered cistern, from which not a drop [of teaching] had leaked of what had been poured into it.” Alfred Edersheim

- 1) Successful ministry has two components
 - a) Luke 4:14, 18 the Holy Spirit empowering
 - b) Luke 4:17, 21 the Holy Scripture as the foundation
- 2) You are called to be a minister through Spirit and Word
 - a) 1 Peter 4:10 Use your God-given gift for ministry
 - b) Rom. 12:3-8 Use it in relationship to the Body

The Baptism and Temptation of Christ

Falcon Baptist Church. March 2015

Luke 4:1-30

Sermon notes

To live like Christ is to minister by the Holy Spirit, using the Word of God

The Word and Spirit begin ministry, help in tough times, and give success.

Ministry Begins with the Holy Spirit and the Word of God

The baptism of Christ marks the last private act and first public act of his three-year ministry. He is identified by John, anointed by the Holy Spirit and approved by the Word of the Father.

Baptism, by definition, means to immerse / dip / identify / implying a change. Greek = “*bapto*” or “*baptize*”. Jewish = “*mikvah*” or “*tvilah*”. The meaning of the word is immersion. The meaning of the act is identification. Common Greek and Jewish use at the time of Christ would be washing a plate in water (dipped) or to change the color cloth by immersion in a dye. Earlier in history the concept of baptism was linked to consecration, as in Exodus 29:1-9.

- 1) Identified by John. But, why was Jesus baptized?
 - a) Matt. 3:11a Baptized to identify with sinners
 - b) Matt. 3:11b Baptized to identify with the new Kingdom
 - c) Matt. 3:13-17 Baptized to be publicly made known to Israel
 - d) Matt. 3:15 Baptized to fulfill all righteousness
 - e) 1 Cor. 1:13 Baptized to lead the way, to be the ‘Name’
 - f) Acts 1:21-22 Baptized to begin public ministry
- 2) Anointing by the Holy Spirit Acts 10:38, Matt. 3:17 as a human
- 3) Approval by the Word of Father Matt. 3:17
- 4) Should I be baptized?
 - a) _____
 - b) _____
 - c) _____

Ministers Overcome Temptation by the Holy Spirit and Word of God

1) Jesus was tempted

- a) Luke 4:1 Led by the Spirit, sent
- b) Luke 4:3 Tempted by the Devil

Note: **temptation** seeks to draw you away from God, reducing our witness. It will be from Satan (or our flesh). **Testing** brings you toward God and may result in greater effectiveness, e.g. 2 cor. 1:3-11. Two different Gk. Words.

2) Jesus overcame temptation with the Word of God

- a) Luke 4:3-4 Hunger with Deut. 8:3
- b) Luke 4:5-8 Kingdoms with Deut. 6:13
- c) Luke 4:9-12 Dependence with Deut. 6:16

3) The intrinsic nature of temptation from two perspectives

- a) Legitimate ends *but illegitimate means and timing*
 - 1. Have your kingdoms now, not later
 - 2. Bypass the cross
 - 3. Are all desires from God?
- b) Blatant evil
 - 1. We are not so easily tempted by that!

It is important to note that if Jesus had taken what was rightly His (kingdoms) he would have bypassed to cross, and not paid for our sin. Most of our temptation is taking a good and rightful desire and tempting us to short-cut the means God provides and seek the pleasure anyway. Food is good, but we can be tempted to abuse that. Money is good, but greed is a temptation. Sexual desire is God-given, but tremendous pressure tempts us to seek pleasure and not God's timing and in God's way.

4) The intrinsic nature of our Adversary

- a) Demeanor 1 Peter 5:8 roaring lion
- b) Appearance 2 Cor. 11:12-15 angel of light
- c) Method John 8:44 lies / murderer
- d) Frequency Luke 4:13 "opportune time"
- e) Some OT word pictures for sin
 - 1. "transgress", to step over boundaries
 - 2. "miss the mark" like an arrow / target
 - 3. "fish hook", looks yummy but snares

Think about fishing – the better the bait, the more attractive, the more successful you are at fishing. Satan tempts us by good things, but we do not see the hidden "hook" We do not know what sin truly costs. We do know, however, that Christ had to pay of our sin, for my sin.

5) We will be tempted

- a) 1 John 2:16a _____
- b) 1 John 2:16b _____
- c) 1 John 2:16c _____
- d) Examples. "I am tempted by"
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____

We are never tempted by stoning stones to bread, or seeking to have the kingdoms of the world. There is no reason for the enemy to waste resources on that. We will, however, be tempted in areas related to our own lives and opportunities. The 'tailor-made' nature of sin makes us susceptible at different points, but the three main categories will be used – lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh and the pride of life.

"Man, as the image bearer of God, also imputes value to the creation . . . Man determines for himself the value of the choices he must make . . . God, being omniscient, knows exactly how much a man should give up in order to gain some item or goal. Men, being rebellious . . . frequently pay too much or too little for the things in life they pursue. They are unable to impute value according to the warning given by Jesus: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own sole?" (Mark 8:36). If they cannot correctly value this key transaction in terms of its cost-effectiveness, how can they make accurate judgments concerning the true value of any other transaction? Yet they are required by God to do so." Gary North, ICE.

e) Examples of the true costs and consequences of sin

- 1. General Patraeus
- 2. Lance Armstrong
- 3. Whitney Houston
- 4. David numbering his army
- 5. Trojan horse (tale)

6) We will overcome temptation with the Word of God

- a) Example: Proverbs 16:28, "dad, you gossip". \$0.25
- b) Example: _____
- c) Example: _____
- d) Example: _____