



Welcome To The Killeen Church of Christ!

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."-Ecclesiastes 12:13



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SHEPHERDS

*Lee Fisher
Zachary Petties*

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*Roger Deem
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TREASURER

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MONTHLY SUPPORT:

*Cherokee Home
For Children
Cherokee, TX*

*Christian Homes &
Family Services
Abilene, TX*

*Foster's Home
For Children
Stephenville, TX*

*Sunny Glen
Children's Home
San Benito, TX*

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS - 9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY - 7:00 PM

Pearls from Jesus' Temptation

By Phil McIntosh

When Jesus left Heaven to enter our world of sin and decay, He gave up an existence in peace, brightness, and glory. He left a place of perfection to wade into the cesspool of the world. The world started off in perfection; God spoke it into existence (Jesus actually, **Heb. 1:1-2**), and said it was good (**Gen. 1:31**). Then man, left to his own decisions, made the wrong choice. Then, in every successive generation mankind made the wrong choices. Man corrupted the earth so badly that God even judged the world with a great flood in the days of Noah. The world then purged, mankind continued to fill it with sin. Jesus was sent into this world to offer it permanent purging of sin; not a removal of sin from mankind, but a removal of mankind from sin (**1 Jn. 3:9**). Before Jesus could offer Himself for the sins of mankind though, He spent almost thirty years living with us and like us. He knew what it feels like to have people insult you, to feel the heat of a summer day, to be loved by a mother, to have people adore you and have people avoid you, and many more human experiences that are common to us. The Bible also tells us about another experience of Jesus, one which possessed the power to alter the course of mankind's redemption- temptation.

Three gospel accounts record the event of Jesus' temptation. Matthew, Mark, and Luke record the occurrence, while only Matthew and Luke give many details. In those details, the Bible tells us that Jesus was led into the wilderness and fasted for forty days. Forty days! The language in Luke seems to indicate that Jesus was tempted for a prolonged period. Luke writes,

"Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² being tempted for forty days by the devil." (**Luke 4:1-2**)

The contents of the temptation by the devil are what is at the heart of our study here. Perhaps when we read this section of scripture our minds travel to **1 John 2:16** and that's good; we'll circle back to that in a few paragraphs. The temptations with which the devil attempted to derail the plan of God are as follows:

"Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." (**Matthew 4:3**)

"Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.' " (**Matthew 4:5-6**)

"Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." (**Matthew 4:8-9**)

Let us progress beyond the surface observations and discuss some deeper elements of what was happening. You likely are familiar with the temptations; perhaps you've read these sections of Mathew and Luke many times in life. Have you spent any time thinking about what these temptations would have meant to Jesus? To God's plan? To you? Have you thought about in what ways that these temptations were unique to Jesus? Think on this- would any, could any, normal human be tempted with such things? You and I can not only not turn rocks into loaves of bread, but we would never even imagine trying because it's ludicrous; we simply don't possess any power or authority over matter to do anything of the sort. You and I would never throw ourselves off the top of a building or cliff or steeple with any sort of hope that a force other than the ground would break our fall; we know we'd die. Lastly, we are in no position to rule the world. None of us image the devil appearing directly in front of us, with unveiled face, and offering us to be king of the world. The point here is that Jesus was tempted in a unique fashion. Jesus was tempted with things that were begging Him to "prove" that He had the power of God and was God. If you'll note, the devil himself specifically said "if you are the Son of God" and then mentioned what he wanted Jesus to do. The devil knew that Jesus was the Son of God; the devil knew Jesus was God (**Matt. 8:29; Jas. 2:19**).

But Jesus certainly had no reason to “prove” Himself to the devil. What then was the point? Why the temptation? If the devil could entice Jesus to sin, the plan for the redemption of man would have been injured. The devil has afflicted man from almost the beginning of the world, but then, at the temptation of Jesus, he had an opportunity to attempt to injure God. Surely he failed, as he always will when he battles God; but he tried. After failing to attack the deity of Jesus, he attacked Jesus’ adopted mortality (*Gen. 3:15; Lk. 22:3*). Little did the devil know that influencing man to kill Jesus was only going to hurt his own cause. For this we thank God and should be in awe of His omniscience.

Return though to the temptation of Jesus. The Bible tells us that Jesus was tempted like we were. If Jesus was tempted with things that you and I wouldn’t be tempted with, how does that make sense? Look at the scripture that is generally quoted in reference to His temptation:

“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.” (**Hebrews 4:15**)

The Greek language says that Jesus was tempted “in all things” and “the same way.” The words there could be translated to give us the idea that Jesus was tempted in the same kind of way. This fits perfectly with **1 John 2:16**. John there writes that the different categories of sin in life are the “lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.” We often refer to these categories in reference to what Jesus endured. They certainly are similar, aren’t they? Jesus was tempted with desire, pride, and power. Those are the same categories of sins with which we’re tempted. So, all those verses fit very nicely together; which shouldn’t surprise us since they were all authored by God and are perfect.

Jesus endured and overcame His temptation in the most excellent fashion, since He never once stumbled. We stumble, and frequently. Herein we find another pearl. Not only was Jesus tempted in the same categories as we, but Jesus answered them in the same fashion that we should. Remember Jesus’ answer? He said, in all three variations of temptation, “it is written.” Jesus responded to each form of temptation with the word of God. God has given us His word to guide us, protect us, lead us, and keep us safe. Temptation will come to all of us, but God has given us the key to victory (*1 Cor. 10:13*). Jesus showed us what that key was- to use our knowledge and love of God and His word to defeat the devil. May the next time you are tempted you think of God’s word and may the next time you read of Jesus’ temptation you appreciate His strength and perfect holiness to deliver us reconciliation with God and eternal life.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



Join the fun at our Youth Lock-In on July 29th, from 7:00 pm-7:00 am, in the fellowship hall. There will be lessons, singing, games, & junk food. Invite your friends!
If any members would like to help chaperone, please see Gaylen or Phil for details.

**“AND THIS IS THE
VICTORY THAT HAS
OVERCOME THE
WORLD-OUR FAITH.”
(1 JOHN 5:4)**



CHAMPION VBS EMPOWERED BY JESUS!

**Join us for VBS
July 31st - August 3rd**

- ⇒ **TIMES 6:00-7:30 PM**
- ⇒ **THERE WILL BE SINGING**
- ⇒ **CLASSES WITH ACTIVITIES**
- ⇒ **REFRESHMENTS**

SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE IN THE FOYER FOR HELP



PICTURES: If you do not see your picture on the picture board, please see Zack Petties or Victoria Polanco to have one taken.

July/Aug. Nursery Schedule

3-Josephine & Vicky	Aug.7-Gayle & Josephine
10-Beverly & Suncha	14-Beverly & Suncha
17-Brenda & Nichole	21-Brenda & Nichole
24-Natalie & Amanda	28-Natalie & Amanda
31-Vicky & Aaronique	

Ladies-If you would like to be on the nursery list, please contact the office. Thank you!

July Cleaning Calendar

- May be done any time before the next Sunday.
- Please consult with your team leader for further questions.

July 3-TEAM LEE

Lee
Natalie
Rufus
Derek
Ken
Tim

10-TEAM ZACK

Zack
Amanda
Diedre
Paul
Ruby

17-TEAM ROGER

Patrick
Brenda
Roger
Linda

24-TEAM JAMES S.

Kim-Marie
Xavier
Jaden
Kingsford

31-TEAM PHIL

Michelle
Beverly
Josephine
Yvonne
Lois
Marcella
Suncha

Thank you!

ORDER OF SERVICE

SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2022:

- ♦ANNOUNCEMENTS: REGGIE BASS
- ♦1ST PRAYER: BILL RAWLINGS
- ♦SONG: PAUL PORTLEY
- ♦SCRIPTURE READING: MICHAEL ROGERS
- ♦SONG: PAUL PORTLEY
- ♦SERMON: PHIL MCINTOSH
- ♦INVITATION SONG: PAUL PORTLEY
- ♦SONG BEFORE COMMUNION: PAUL PORTLEY
- ♦COMMUNION:
GIANNI GRIFFITH & IVAN MCINTOSH
- ♦SONG: PAUL PORTLEY
- ♦OFFERING:
GIANNI GRIFFITH & IVAN MCINTOSH
- ♦CLOSING SONG: PAUL PORTLEY
- ♦CLOSING PRAYER: ANDRÉ PETTAWAY
- ♦AUDIO/VISUAL: PATRICK SELLERS
- ♦SECURITY: ROGER DEEM & ANDRÉ PETTAWAY
- ♦NURSERY:
BRENDA SELLERS & NATALIE FISHER



SCRIPTURE READING

**“Characteristics of the NT Church:
Is It Relevant in the 21st Century?”**

2 Peter 1:2-4

² Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

³ According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

⁴ Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

JULY BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY

BIRTHDAY!



- 1 - LETTY BURGOS
- 4 - LINDA DEEM
- 23 - MARCELLA WILLIAMS
- 24 - LEE FISHER
- 26 - YVONNE HARDIMAN

HAPPY 58TH ANNIVERSARY
TO BUCK & MARTHA CHAFIN ON JULY 25TH!

