

1/5/14

LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR HAS  
COME, WEEK 22

TITLE: THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS, PART IV

TEXT: LUKE 4:9-13

INTRODUCTION: (1) HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THE  
**EXPRESSION "A LITTLE KNOWLEDGE CAN BE  
DANGEROUS?"**

\* WELL, SO CAN A LOT OF KNOWLEDGE,  
ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO THE WORD OF  
GOD.

\*\* NOW, LET ME EXPLAIN BEFORE SOME OF YOU  
**THINK I'VE REALLY GONE** OFF ON THE DEEP END  
TO BEGIN 2014.

\*\*\* KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD OF GOD IS VERY,  
VERY IMPORTANT. WE SHOULD WANT TO KNOW  
THE WORD OF GOD SO THAT WE CAN KNOW THE  
GOD OF THE WORD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN -  
FOR THOSE SUPREME PURPOSES.

\*\*\*\* KNOWING GOD IS THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF KNOWING THE WORD. FOR TO KNOW GOD IS TO LOVE GOD, TO KNOW GOD IS TO TRUST GOD, TO KNOW GOD IS TO SERVE GOD, TO KNOW GOD IS TO OBEY GOD AND TO KNOW GOD SHOULD LEAD US TO MAKE HIM KNOWN.

**(2) J. I. PACKER IN HIS BOOK "KNOWING GOD" SAID AND I QUOTE: "IF YOU LOOK BACK TO PSALM 119, WHICH IS THE GREAT CHAPTER THAT EXALTS THE WORD OF GOD, YOU WILL SEE THAT THE PSALMIST'S CONCERN TO GET KNOWLEDGE ABOUT GOD WAS NOT A THEORETICAL, BUT A PRACTICAL CONCERN.**

\* HIS SUPREME DESIRE WAS TO KNOW AND ENJOY GOD HIMSELF, AND HE VALUED KNOWLEDGE ABOUT GOD SIMPLY AS A MEANS TO THIS END.

**\*\* HE WANTED TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S TRUTH IN ORDER THAT HIS HEART MIGHT RESPOND TO IT AND HIS LIFE BE CONFORMED TO IT."**

**(3) PACKER WENT ON TO SAY, "OUR AIM IN STUDYING THE GODHEAD MUST BE TO KNOW GOD HIMSELF THE BETTER.**

\* OUR CONCERN MUST BE TO ENLARGE OUR ACQUAINTANCE, NOT SIMPLY WITH THE **DOCTRINE OF GOD'S ATTRIBUTES**, BUT WITH THE LIVING GOD WHOSE ATTRIBUTES THEY ARE.

\*\* AS HE IS THE SUBJECT OF OUR STUDY, AND OUR HELPER IN IT, SO HE MUST HIMSELF BE THE END OF IT.

\*\*\* WE MUST SEEK, IN STUDYING GOD, TO BE LED TO GOD. IT WAS FOR THIS PURPOSE THAT REVELATION (THE WORD OF GOD) WAS GIVEN, **AND IT IS TO THIS USE THAT WE MUST PUT IT."**  
(END QUOTE)

**(4) NOW PACKER'S POINT IS WE NEED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD SO THAT WE KNOW GOD, HE IS THE END OF OUR STUDY. WE NEED KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD TO BE LIKE CHRIST.**

\* BUT LET ME ADD, KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD CAN BE DANGEROUS WITHOUT THAT END.

\*\* FOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD OF GOD WITHOUT APPLICATION AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD OF GOD WITHOUT SUBMISSION AND OBEDIENCE IS DANGEROUS!

\*\*\* THE REASON BEING KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT APPLICATION LEADS TO PRIDE, FOR A PARAPHRASE OF 1 CORINTHIANS 8:1 SAYS: KNOWLEDGE PUFFS UP, BUT LOVE BUILDS UP. **FOR IT LIT. SAYS: "KNOWLEDGE MAKES ARROGANT, BUT LOVE EDIFIES."**

\*\*\*\* AND KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT OBEDIENCE LEADS TO GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY, FOR TO WHOM MUCH IS GIVEN, MUCH **IS REQUIRED, I'M ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE DOCTRINES I'VE BEEN TAUGHT.**

(5) BUT ALSO KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD WITHOUT SUBMISSION CAN LEAD TO PERVERTING THE WORD, USING IT FOR OUR OWN ENDS, USING IT FOR OUR PURPOSES **RATHER THAN THE ALMIGHTY'S PURPOSES.**

\* KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT SUBMISSION CAN LEAD TO PERVERTING THE PURPOSE OF THE WORD.

\*\* AND THE SUPREME EXAMPLE OF THAT IS SATAN WHICH BRINGS US TO LUKE 4:9-13, OUR TEXT TODAY.

\*\*\* FOR SATAN KNOWS THE WORD BETTER THAN ANY OF US IN THIS ROOM TODAY. HE CAN QUOTE SCRIPTURE AND PROBABLY CAN QUOTE EVERY VERSE IN THE BIBLE.

\*\*\*\* THE DEVIL HAS GREAT KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD BUT DOES NOT SUBMIT TO IT. SATAN USES THE WORD ONLY FOR HIS OWN PURPOSES, HE PERVERTS THE WORD BY USING IT TO MANIPULATE AND LEAD PEOPLE DOWN THE WRONG PATH., MANY TIMES THROUGH FALSE RELIGION.

(6) AND SATAN DOES THAT IN LUKE 4:10&11. HE QUOTES PSALM 91:11&12 TO JESUS IN TEMPTING HIM TO SIN. HE USES THE WORD OF GOD AGAINST THE SON OF GOD TO TRY TO GET HIM TO SIN!!

\* AND WHEREAS THE WORD OF GOD SHOULD BE USED TO KEEP US FROM SIN, SATAN WILL USE IT OUT OF CONTEXT TO TRY TO GET US TO SIN OR GET US SIDETRACKED.

**\*\* AND THAT'S WHAT HE DOES WITH CHRIST IN OUR STUDY TODAY, WHICH I'VE SIMPLY TITLED, "THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS, PART IV".**

\*\*\* AND IN THIS **STUDY WE'LL LOOK AT** 4 THINGS, NO. 1 THE PLACE OF THE TEMPTATION, THE TEMPLE, V. 9A; NO. 2 THE PLEA BY THE DEVIL USING THE WORD OF GOD, VV. 9B-11; NO. 3 THE PRECEPT GIVEN BY CHRIST USING THE WORD OF GOD TO OVERCOME TEMPTATION, V. 12; AND NO. 4, THE POSTMORTEM OF THE BATTLE, V. 13.

\*\*\*\* AND WITH THOSE 4 POINTS TO DIRECT US, LOOK AT V. 9A PLEASE **WHERE WE'LL SEE OUR** FIRST POINT TODAY, THE PLACE OF THE TEMPTATION.

## I. THE PLACE, (READ V. 9A)

A. NOW THE PLACE OF **LUKE'S THIRD** TEMPTATION OF JESUS CHRIST IS JERUSALEM WHICH MATTHEW IN HIS PARALLEL TEXT CALLS THE HOLY CITY, AND THE REASON IT WAS A HOLY CITY FOR JEWS WAS THE TEMPLE WAS THERE.

\* JERUSALEM WAS THE RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL SEAT OF PALESTINE, THE RELIGIOUS CENTER OF THE JEWISH NATION.

\*\* SO THE PLACE IS JERUSALEM AND SPECIFICALLY THE TEMPLE OF THE JEWS.

1. NOW IT DOES NOT SAY HOW SATAN TOOK JESUS THERE. MANY ASSUME HE IMMEDIATELY TRANSPORTED HIM THERE BY HIS POWER AND **THAT'S POSSIBLE, BUT WE CAN'T SAY THAT FOR SURE.**

\* BUT WE DO KNOW THAT SATAN DID NOT FORCE JESUS TO GO, JESUS WENT WILLINGLY FOR REMEMBER HE IS GOD THE SON AND THIS IS A PART OF THE PLAN OF GOD THAT JESUS WOULD BE TESTED AND BE VICTORIOUS.

\*\* SO BY SOME MEANS THE DEVIL AND JESUS ARE AT THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM AND SPECIFICALLY ARE STANDING ON THE PINNACLE OF THE TEMPLE.



\*\*\* NOW THE WORD PINNACLE IN THE GREEK **LIT. MEANS "A WING" LIKE A WING OF A** BUILDING, SO THEY ARE ON SOME WING OF THE TOP OF THE TEMPLE AND MOST COMMENTATORS BELIEVE THAT IT WAS THE ROOF THAT EXTENDED OUT OVER WHAT WAS **CALLED HEROD'S ROYAL PORTICO.**

\*\*\*\* FOR HEROD THE GREAT HAD RENOVATED AND ENLARGED THE TEMPLE IN 19 B.C. IN HOPES OF **GAINING THE JEW'S CONFIDENCE.** AND THE TEMPLE WAS THE TALLEST BUILDING IN THE AREA AND THE HIGHEST POINT WOULD HAVE BEEN ON THE ROOF OF **HEROD'S PORCH** WHICH OVERLOOKED THE KIDRON VALLEY.

2. AND JOSEPHUS, THE JEWISH HISTORIAN, REPORTS THAT THE DROP TO THE VALLEY FLOOR FROM THAT SPOT WAS 450 FEET.

\* IN FACT, JOSEPHUS REPORTS THAT IT WAS A **"DIZZY HEIGHT", IN OTHER WORDS TO LOOK** OVER THAT PORCH WOULD MAKE YOU DIZZY IT WAS SUCH A DROP.

**\*\* AND IF THAT'S THE PLACE, 450 FEET IS A LONG WAY DOWN. FOR IMAGINE GOING OVER TO OUR OLD BUILDING ON MARKET AVENUE AND WALKING OVER TO THE WATER TOWER RIGHT NEXT TO OUR OLD CHURCH BUILDING AND CLIMBING UP AND LOOKING OUT OVER FROM THE TOP, YOU PROBABLY WOULD GET A LITTLE **DIZZY IF YOU WERE ON THE EDGE, AND IT'S ONLY 200 FEET HIGH.****

**\*\*\* SO DOUBLE THAT AND THEN ADD 50 FEET **AND WE GET THE PICTURE. IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN.****

**\*\*\*\* AND LET ME ADD BEFORE WE MOVE ON TO V. 9B, THAT CHURCH TRADITION TELLS US THAT JAMES, THE HALF BROTHER OF OUR LORD, WHO WAS VERY ACTIVE IN THE JERUSALEM CHURCH, WAS MARTYRED, BEING THROWN DOWN FROM **HEROD'S PORTICO, TRAVELING 450 FEET DOWN TO HIS DEATH.****

3. AND MOST BELIEVE THAT WAS THE SPOT THE DEVIL TOOK JESUS TO, THE PINNACLE OF THE TEMPLE, WHICH SETS THE STAGE FOR THE TEMPTATION FOUND IN V. 9B, **WHICH IS OUR 2'D** POINT TODAY, THE PLEA. LOOK AT V. 9 AGAIN PLEASE.

II. THE PLEA, (READ V. 9)

A. NOW AT THE PINNACLE OF THE TEMPLE, SATAN MAKES A PLEA TO JESUS AND SAYS TO **HIM, "IF, LIT. SINCE YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD,"** FOR SATAN KNEW WHO JESUS WAS AND JESUS KNEW WHO HE WAS AS HIMSELF, THE SON OF GOD.

\* SO SATAN SAYS: SINCE YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD, JUMP OFF, DO A SWAN DIVE, THROW YOURSELF DOWN, FOR THE ANGELS WILL RESCUE YOU SINCE YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD.

\*\* AND SATAN QUOTES PSALM 91:11&12 IN VV. 10&11 TO JESUS WHERE HE WILL USE THE WORD OF GOD TO TEMPT CHRIST.

B. LOOK AT VV. 10&11 PLEASE.

\*NOW HE PERVERTS THE SCRIPTURE AND BY THE WAY LEAVES OUT PART OF PSALM 91:11, **WHERE IT SAYS, "IN ALL YOUR WAYS."**

\*\*\* SO SATAN GIVES PART OF THE SCRIPTURE BUT NOT ALL OF IT, USING IT FOR HIS OWN PURPOSES. AGAIN SATAN KNOWS THE WORD BETTER THAN ANY OF US, BUT DOES NOT SUBMIT TO IT BUT PERVERTS IT FOR HIS OWN PURPOSES.

\*\*\*\* AND WHAT A SUBTLE AND CLEVER TWIST THAT SATAN USES BY QUOTING SCRIPTURE, THE TEMPTER THOUGHT HE HAD BACKED JESUS INTO A CORNER.

- IN FACT, HE EVEN INTRODUCED HIS QUOTATION WITH THE VERY PHRASE JESUS **USED WITH HIM TWICE BEFORE THIS "IT IS WRITTEN."**

- AND REBUFFED **TWO TIMES BY JESUS' QUOTES** OF SCRIPTURE, SATAN NOW QUOTED SCRIPTURE HIMSELF.

1. **AND HERE'S THE POINT**, IF JESUS LIVED ONLY **BY THE WORD OF GOD, TO USE CHRIST'S QUOTE** IN MATTHEW 4:4, THEN SATAN WOULD CONFRONT HIM BY SOMETHING FROM THE WORD OF GOD.

\* **AND SINCE YOU'RE GOD'S SON AND SINCE YOU TRUST GOD'S WORD, PUT GOD TO THE TEST, A** SCRIPTURAL TEST AND JUMP OFF AND THE WORD OF GOD SAYS THAT GOD WILL GIVE HIS ANGELS CHARGE CONCERNING YOU, AND THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP IN THEIR HANDS AND YOU WILL NOT EVEN HIT YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE IN THE VALLEY.

\*\* IN OTHER WORDS, THE ANGELS WOULD BE **CHRIST'S PARACHUTE AND WOULD PROTECT** HIM FROM BEING CRUSHED AGAINST THE STONES BY THE FALL.

\*\*\* AND THE DEVIL WAS SAYING IN ESSENCE, THIS WILL PROVE TO EVERYONE THAT YOU ARE THE MESSIAH.

\*\*\*\* I MEAN "JUMP" AND WHEN THE ANGELS RESCUE YOU, EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE THE MESSIAH.

**2. AND THAT'S PROBABLY WHY SATAN TOOK** JESUS TO THE TEMPLE, IT WAS A PUBLIC PLACE, A LOT OF PEOPLE WERE AROUND THE TEMPLE, HE COULD HAVE TAKEN HIM TO SOME CLIFF IN A REMOTE PLACE, BUT THIS WAS PUBLIC AND THE CAPITAL OF THE JEWS.

**\* AND FOR JESUS TO HAVE FOLLOWED SATAN'S** SUGGESTION WOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE EYES OF MANY JEWS, SURE PROOF OF HIS MESSIAHSHIP.

\*\* THIS WOULD BE A SIGN FROM HEAVEN THAT JESUS WAS THE MESSIAH IN ACCORD WITH POPULAR TRADITION BY SOME JEWS ACCORDING TO MALACHI 3:1.

**\*\*\* FOR MALACHI 3:1 SAYS: "BEHOLD, I AM GOING TO SEND MY MESSENGER, AND HE WILL CLEAR THE WAY BEFORE ME. AND THE LORD, WHOM YOU SEEK, WILL SUDDENLY COME TO HIS TEMPLE; AND THE MESSENGER OF THE COVENANT, IN WHOM YOU DELIGHT, BEHOLD, HE IS COMING," SAYS THE LORD OF HOSTS.**

\*\*\*\* NOW SOME JEWS BELIEVED BECAUSE OF THAT VERSE THAT THE MESSIAH WOULD APPEAR SUDDENLY AT THE TEMPLE WITH SOME SIGN, FOR THE JEWS WERE BIG ON SIGNS, AS I **CORINTHIANS 1:22 SAYS, "THE JEWS ASK FOR SIGNS"** AND THIS WOULD BE THE CONVINCER – HIS COMING OUT, HIS UNVEILING. JUMP AND GOD WILL CATCH YOU WITH HIS ANGELS, SATAN SAYS.

3. AND ACCORDING TO WILLIAM BARCLAY, THAT IS EXACTLY THE SORT OF PROOF MANY PURPORTED, PROFESSING **MESSIAH'S OF THAT DAY** WERE TRYING TO GIVE.

\* IN FACT, A MAN NAMED THEUDAS LED A GROUP OF PEOPLE FROM THE TEMPLE TO THE JORDAN RIVER, PROMISING TO SPLIT THE WATERS. AFTER HE FAILED NO ONE FOLLOWED HIM ANYMORE.

\*\* BEYOND THAT, TRADITION HOLDS THAT SIMON THE MAGICIAN TALKED ABOUT IN ACTS 8:9 TRIED THE VERY FEAT WITH WHICH SATAN TEMPTED JESUS, JUMPING OFF THE TOP OF THE TEMPLE, FOR WHICH HE LOST HIS LIFE AS WELL AS HIS FOLLOWING.

\*\*\* BUT JESUS WOULD NOT GIVE IN TO THAT KIND OF RAZZLE DAZZLE STUFF TO CONVINC UNBELIEVERS THAT HE WAS THE MESSIAH.

\*\*\*\* FOR DEMANDING SENSATIONAL PROOF IS NOT EVIDENCE OF FAITH BUT OF DOUBT TO LONG FOR THE VISIBLE SIGN, THE BIG MIRACLE, THE DRAMATIC PROOF IS NOTHING BUT MASKED UNBELIEF. IT IS THE FARTHEST THING FROM FAITH.



4. AND SIGNS AND WONDERS NORMALLY DO NOT LEAD TO BELIEF. SEEING IS NOT ALWAYS BELIEVING, LOOK AT ISRAEL BEING DELIVERED OUT OF EGYPT, THEY SAW SIGNS AND WONDERS, 10 PLAGUES OF JUDGMENT, BUT WANTED TO GO BACK TO EGYPT AND COMPLAINED AND GRIPED AND THOUGHT GOD HAD BROUGHT THEM OUT OF EGYPT TO BURY THEM IN THE DESERT.

\* AND THEN JESUS PERFORMED MANY SIGNS AND WONDERS TO HELP OTHERS, HE HEALED, HE FED 5000 MEN PLUS WOMEN AND CHILDREN, HE RAISED THE DEAD, BUT IT SAYS IN JOHN **12:37 "BUT THOUGH HE HAD PERFORMED SO MANY SIGNS BEFORE THEM, YET THEY WERE NOT BELIEVING IN HIM."**

\*\* AND THEN IN MATTHEW 12:38 & 39 IT SAYS: (QUOTE THEM). OUR QUOTE CHRISTIAN CULTURE TODAY.

\*\*\* AND THE BOTTOM LINE IS DOUBT WANTS SIGNS, AND PEOPLE WANT SIGNS FOR THEIR OWN ENDS MANY TIMES, BUT AT THIS POINT, JESUS REFUSED TO GIVE SIGNS OF HIS DEITY ON DEMAND AND TEMPT OR TEST THE WILL OF GOD.

\*\*\*\* AND IN APPLICATION I WANT TO QUOTE **JOHN MACARTHUR'S COMMENTARY ON LUKE 1-5 WHERE HE SAID: "THIS TYPE OF** TEMPTATION IS PERHAPS THE MOST SUBTLE AND DANGEROUS OF THE THREE, BECAUSE IT SEEMINGLY ENCOURAGES PEOPLE TO EXERCISE FAITH IN GOD. IN REALITY, IT ARROGANTLY, BRAZENLY DEMANDS THINGS FROM GOD, TURNING HIM INTO A UTILITARIAN GENIE WHO **GRANTS PEOPLE'S EVERY** WHIM. THAT FALSE VIEW OF FAITH, PROMOTED IN ITS MOST EXTREME FORM BY THE SO-CALLED PROSPERITY **GOSPEL (ALSO KNOWN AS THE "NAME IT AND CLAIM IT" MOVEMENT), IN ESSENCE MAKES** MAN SOVEREIGN.

\*\*\*\*\* IF THE RIGHT FORMULA IS USED, GOD HAS TO RESPOND. WHEN HE DOES NOT DELIVER THE GOODS THEY HAVE CLAIMED BY FAITH, HOWEVER, MANY BECOME DISILLUSIONED AND **ABANDON HIM.**"

- IN CONTRAST TO THAT FALSE, EVEN BLASPHEMOUS VIEW OF FAITH, TRUE FAITH **HUMBLY SUBMITS TO GOD'S WILL. IT PRAYS, AS JESUS TAUGHT, "YOUR WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN."** (MATTHEW 6:10; LUKE 22:42) (END QUOTE)

- AND BOTTOM LINE, JESUS WOULD HAVE NO PART OF CHEAP, FAITHLESS SENSATIONALISM, HE THEREFORE REPLIED TO SATAN, IT IS SAID, LIT. IT IS WRITTEN AS JESUS RESPONDED WITH TRUTH, A PRECEPT TO COMBAT AND DEAL WITH **THE DEVIL'S LIE.**

- WHICH LEADS US TO V. 12, **OUR 3'D POINT** TODAY, THE PRECEPT. LOOK AT V. 12 PLEASE.

### III. THE PRECEPT, (READ V. 12)

A. NOW JESUS USES THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT **AGAIN, THE WORD OF GOD TO THWART SATAN'S** TEMPTATION, HE QUOTES DEUTERONOMY 6:16. AND HE USES IT PROPERLY, HE NEVER **PERVERTS IT, BUT USES IT FOR HIS FATHER'S** PURPOSE.

\* **AND IT WAS NOT THE FATHER'S PURPOSE TO** HAVE JESUS JUMP OFF THE TEMPLE, THAT WOULD BE TO PUT GOD TO THE TEST IN A NEGATIVE WAY, IT WOULD BE TO TEMPT GOD.

\*\* AND JESUS DID NOT NEED TO PROVE TO HIMSELF THAT HIS FATHER CARED AND WOULD PROTECT HIM.

\*\*\* JESUS KNEW HIS FATHER WOULD TAKE CARE OF HIM AND HE KNOWS **THAT THE FATHER'S** CARE AND PROTECTION COULD NOT BE TO OTHERS BY ANY MEANS BUT FAITH.

\*\*\*\* AND FOR AT LEAST 2 REASONS JESUS REFUSED TO TAKE PART IN A SPECTACLE SUCH AS THROWING HIMSELF OFF THE TEMPLE ROOF.

1. FIRST, ANY SENSATIONALISM INEVITABLY IS FRUSTRATED BY THE LAW OF DIMINISHING RETURNS. PEOPLE ARE NEVER SATISFIED. THEY ALWAYS WANT ONE MORE SIGN, ONE MORE MIRACLE, ONE MORE SHOW.

\* AND TO HAVE MAINTAINED HIS INFLUENCE OVER THE PEOPLE BY THE USE OF MIRACLES, JESUS WOULD HAVE HAD TO PRODUCE GREATER AND GREATER SENSATIONS.

\*\* AND BECAUSE THE NATURAL, CARNAL HEART CAN NEVER BE SATISFIED, **THIS YEAR'S MIRACLE WOULD HAVE BEEN NEXT YEAR'S BORE.** HIS FOLLOWERS WOULD ONLY HAVE BEEN LOVERS OF SENSATION, NOT LOVERS OF GOD.

2. BUT SECOND AND EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANT, NO MATTER HOW NOBLE, SINCERE AND IMPORTANT WE MAY THINK OUR REASONS ARE, TO TEST GOD IS TO DOUBT GOD!!

\* AND TO DOUBT GOD IS NOT TO TRUST HIM, AND NOT TO TRUST HIM IS SIN.

\*\* AND THAT IS WHAT SATAN WANTED JESUS TO DO. TO INDUCE JESUS TO SIN, (IF THAT WERE POSSIBLE,) TO SHATTER HIS PERFECT HOLINESS, AND THEREFORE SHATTER HIS **DIVINITY AND MAN'S HOPE OF SALVATION.**

\*\*\* AND HAD JESUS PUT HIS FATHER TO SUCH A TEST, HE WOULD HAVE SEPARATED HIMSELF FROM HIS FATHER AND PERVERTED THE DIVINE PLAN OF REDEMPTION - THE VERY PURPOSE FOR WHICH HE HAD COME TO THE EARTH.

\*\*\*\* AND NOT ONLY THAT, BUT TO HAVE TESTED THE FATHER BY PUTTING HIM UNDER PRESSURE TO PROVIDE BY EXTRAORDINARY MEANS, **ESPECIALLY A MEANS OF JESUS' OWN CHOOSING**, WOULD HAVE BEEN FOR THE SON TO PUT HIS JUDGMENT AND WILL ABOVE THE **FATHER'S WHICH HE WOULD NEVER DO. THE FATHER'S WILL WAS ALWAYS SUPREME, JOHN 6:38 AGAIN, (QUOTE IT).**

**3. BUT BEYOND DOING THE FATHER'S WILL,** WHICH JESUS WAS COMMITTED TO, BY GIVING **IN TO SATAN'S PLEA, WOULD HAVE ALSO QUESTIONED THE FATHER'S GRACIOUS PROVIDENCE AND LOVE.**

\* AND HOW MUCH MORE SHOULD WE AS MERE CREATURES WHO ARE SO IMPERFECT, NEVER **PLACE OUR WILL OR JUDGMENT ABOVE GOD'S.**

\*\* TO LIVE RECKLESSLY AND CARELESSLY, AND THEN EXPECT GOD TO BAIL US OUT WHEN WE GET INTO TROUBLE, IS TO PRESUME UPON HIS GRACE. AND WE ARE NOT TO TEST GOD BUT TO TRUST GOD.

\*\*\* **AND THAT'S WHY JESUS USED** DEUTERONOMY 6:16 IN HIS BATTLE AGAINST THE DEVIL. HE SAYS ON THE OTHER HAND "IT IS SAID", AND IN MATTHEW 4 IN THE PARALLEL TEXT, **"IT IS ALSO WRITTEN", "IT IS WRITTEN AGAIN", "YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST."**

\*\*\*\* AND IN THIS PASSAGE THAT JESUS QUOTES, FROM DEUTERONOMY 6, MOSES WAS **REFERRING TO AN INCIDENT DURING ISRAEL'S WILDERNESS WANDERINGS, RECORDED IN EXODUS 17:1-7.**

4. AND TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT, THE PEOPLE WERE THIRSTY AND READY TO MUTINY AGAINST MOSES AND RETURN TO EGYPT IF HE DID NOT PROVIDE THEM WITH WATER.



\* WELL, GOD SUPPLIED THE WATER, BUT ONLY **AFTER THE PEOPLE HAD "QUARRELED AND TESTED THE LORD SAYING, "IS THE LORD AMONG US OR NOT?"**

\*\* AND IN ESSENCE, THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL TEMPTED GOD. SURE HE WAS AMONG THEM, BUT THEIR LACK OF TRUST WANTED A SIGN, THEY DID NOT TRUST IN THE WAYS OF GOD. **THEY WANTED PROOF. GOD PROVE YOU'RE FAITHFUL.**

\*\*\* AND LET ME SAY OUR NEED AS BELIEVERS IS **NOT TO PROVE GOD'S FAITHFULNESS, BUT DEMONSTRATE OUR OWN, BY TRUSTING HIM BOTH TO DETERMINE AND TO SUPPLY OUR NEEDS ACCORDING TO HIS OWN WILL. GOD IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL.**

\*\*\*\* BELOVED, YES GOD EXPECTS US IN A SENSE TO TAKE RISKS, ANY RISKS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO OBEY HIS WILL.

\*\*\*\*\* LET ME EXPLAIN: BY USING A QUOTE FROM JOHN MACARTHUR. MACARTHUR SAID AND I QUOTE: **"WHEN WE RISK OUR PRESTIGE, OUR MONEY, OUR LIVES, OUR FAMILIES, OR ANYTHING ELSE TO FULFILL THE LORD'S CALLING, WE CAN REST CONFIDENTLY IN HIS DIVINE PROVISION FOR ALL THAT WE NEED - IF WE ACCEPT THE TRUTH THAT ONLY HE KNOWS WHAT OUR NEEDS REALLY ARE.**

\*\*\*\*\* BUT WHEN WE TAKE RISKS SIMPLY TO FULFILL OUR OWN AMBITIONS OR TO PUT GOD TO THE TEST, HE GIVES NO PROMISE ON WHICH **WE CAN REST." (END QUOTE)**

- SO LET US STAND ON THE PROMISES OF GOD IN 2014 BUT LET US NOT TEST THE LORD OUR GOD WITH DOUBT. LET US TRUST HIM WITH FAITH BY KNOWING GOD THROUGH HIS WORD.

- WITH THAT SAID, QUICKLY LOOK AT V. 13 **PLEASE WHERE WE'LL SEE OUR LAST POINT** TODAY, THE POSTMORTEM OF THIS EPIC BATTLE.

#### IV. THE POSTMORTEM OF THE BATTLE, V. 13

A. NOW IT SAYS IN LUKE 4:13 THAT SATAN **“DEPARTED FROM HIM UNTIL AN OPPORTUNE TIME.”**

\* IN OTHER WORDS, SATAN WOULD BE BACK WITH OTHER TEMPTATIONS FOR CHRIST AT THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITY, TEMPTATION WAS NOT OVER FOR JESUS, HE WOULD BE TEMPTED AGAIN.

\*\*\* HE LEFT FOR AWHILE. AND JUST AS JESUS WAS VICTORIOUS OVER TEMPTATION, TEMPTATION WOULD NOT CEASE, THERE WOULD BE OTHERS.

\*\*\*\* AND WE MUST ALWAYS KEEP IN MIND, THAT AS LONG AS WE ARE IN THE BODY AND NOT PRESENT WITH THE LORD, WE WILL HAVE TEMPTATION.

1. AND WE MUST REMEMBER THAT TEMPTATION IS NOT SIN, YIELDING TO IT IS, ENTERTAINING IT IS, SUBMITTING TO IT IS.

\* AND BELOVED GOD TESTS TO STRENGTHEN US AND GROW US BUT SATAN TEMPTS US TO SOLICIT US TO SIN.

**\*\* AND SATAN'S TEMPTATIONS FAILED** IN THE **LIFE OF JESUS, BUT GOD'S TESTING SUCCEEDED. JESUS' RESPONSES TO THE TEMPTER WERE, IN ESSENCE, "I WILL TRUST THE FATHER, I WILL NOT PRESUME ON HIS WORD; AND I WILL NOT CIRCUMVENT HIS WILL.**

**\*\*\* I WILL TAKE THE FATHER'S GOOD GIFTS FROM THE FATHER'S OWN HAND, IN THE FATHER'S OWN WAY, AND IN THE FATHER'S OWN TIME."** **THUS OUR LORD JESUS, WAS ACCREDITED AND VALIDATED BY THE SEVEREST OF TESTS.**

**\*\*\*\* AND NOTE IN MATTHEW'S PARALLEL TEXT** IN MATTHEW 4:11 IT SAYS, THAT AFTER SATAN LEFT, THAT ANGELS CAME AND BEGAN TO MINISTER TO JESUS, LIT. TO SERVE HIM.

2. AND HOW MUCH BETTER IS THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS THAN THE DECEPTION OF SATAN!

**\* AND THE FATHER ACKNOWLEDGES THE SON'S WORTHINESS BY SENDING HIS ANGELS TO SERVE HIM.**

\*\* NOW WE ARE NOT TOLD WHAT THE MINISTRY OF THE ANGELS INCLUDED, BUT SURELY THEY BROUGHT JESUS FOOD TO SATISFY HIS HUNGER AS HE NO DOUBT BROKE HIS FORTY DAY FAST.

\*\*\* FOR ALONG THE SAME LINE AN ANGEL BROUGHT ELIJAH FOOD WHEN HE WAS HUNGRY ACCORDING TO I KINGS 19:5. AND PROBABLY THE ANGELS SERVED JESUS THAT WAY.

\*\*\*\* BEYOND THAT, WE KNOW THEY COULD NOT HAVE BEEN IN THE PRESENCE OF THE SON OF GOD WITHOUT OFFERING HIM WORSHIP.

3. AND CERTAINLY WE WOULD THINK THEY COULD HAVE NOT COME FROM HEAVEN WITHOUT BRINGING STRENGTHENING WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND LOVE FROM THE FATHER.

\* BELOVED, AS THE ANGELS SERVED HIM, THE VICTORY MUST HAVE BEEN SWEET!

AND AS I WRAP UP THINGS TODAY (1) LET ME **REMINDE YOU OF SOME SCRIPTURES WE'VE** ALREADY COVERED AS WE CLOSE OUT THE TEMPTATIONS OF CHRIST, QUOTE HEBREWS 2:18, HEBREWS 4:15&16, I CORINTHIANS 10:13, MATTHEW 26:41, EPHESIANS 6:17.

\* AND BELOVED WE HAVE THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD. WE HAVE THE TOOLS TO OVERCOME TEMPTATION. WE DO NOT HAVE TO LIVE DEFEATED LIVES CONTINUALLY.

\*\* AND LET US BE REMINDED THAT SATAN TEMPTS US IN THE SAME BASIC WAYS HE TEMPTED JESUS.

\*\*\* NO. 1, HE WILL TRY TO GET US TO DISTRUST **GOD'S PROVIDENTIAL CARE AND TO TRY TO** SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS, WIN OUR STRUGGLES, AND MEET OUR NEEDS BY OUR OWN PLANS AND IN OUR OWN POWER AS HE DID WITH CHRIST IN TEMPTATION NO. 1 IN THE LUST OF THE FLESH.

\*\*\*\* AND NO. 2, SATAN WILL APPEAL TO SELFISH AMBITIONS AND TRY TO GET US TO USE OUR OWN SCHEMES TO FULFILL THE PROMISES GOD HAS MADE TO US, WHICH AMOUNTS TO TRYING **TO FULFILL GOD'S PLAN IN SATAN'S WAY** AS HE DID WITH CHRIST IN HIS SECOND TEMPTATION IN LUKE IN THE LUST OF THE EYES.

(2) NO. 3, SATAN WILL TRY TO GET US TO **PRESUME ON GOD'S CARE AND FORGIVENESS BY** WILLINGLY PUTTING OURSELVES IN THE WAY OF DANGER - WHETHER PHYSICAL, ECONOMIC, MORAL, SPIRITUAL OR ANY OTHER AS HE DID WITH CHRIST IN HIS TEMPTATION IN LUKE IN THE PRIDE OF LIFE.

\* AND THAT IS ESSENTIALLY THE MESSAGE GOD TEACHES IN THIS PASSAGE, AND THE ANTIDOTE **IS WHEN TEMPTATION COMES, DON'T LOOK AT THE TEMPTATION BUT AT JESUS CHRIST.**

\*\* KEEP YOUR EYES ON HIS EXAMPLE AND DO WHAT HE DID. LOOK AT THE WAYS HE WAS TEMPTED AND AT THE WAY HE RESISTED, AND LEARN FROM HIM.

\*\*\* BELOVED, WE CAN HAVE VICTORY OVER TEMPTATION ONLY BY RESISTING IN THE WAY THAT JESUS RESISTED - BY HOLDING WITH COMPLETE OBEDIENCE TO GOD AND HIS WORD. WE CAN SAY NO LIKE HE SAID NO. AND AS WE SUBMIT OURSELVES TO GOD BY SUBMITTING TO HIS WORD, THEN WE CAN RESIST THE DEVIL AND HE WILL FLEE FROM US FOR AWHILE.

\*\*\*\* I CLOSE WITH JAMES 4:7&8 AND I PETER 5:8&9. SUBMIT BY SUBMITTING TO HIS WORD **AND WILL. (LET'S PRAY)**