

LUKE - Part 12 - Water and Wilderness

Luke 3:21-23

*21 One day when the crowds were being baptized, Jesus himself was baptized. As He was praying, the heavens opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit, in bodily form, descended on Him like a dove. And **a voice from heaven said**, "You are My dearly loved Son, and You bring Me great joy." 23 Jesus was about thirty years old when He began his public ministry.*

Jesus goes straight from the water (His baptism), into the wilderness (His temptation). In the water – the faith-building place of acceptance, blessing and commissioning – **the Word of God came over Him**. And in the wilderness – the desolate place of danger, rejection and fear – **the Word of God came out of Him**. This is a pattern for us, because for the rest of our earthly lives, it's going to be all about the water, and the wilderness.

Luke 4:1-14

*1 Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan River. He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, 2 where He was tempted by the devil for forty days. Jesus ate nothing all that time and became very hungry. 3 Then the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become a loaf of bread." 4 But Jesus told him, "No! **The Scriptures say**, 'People do not live by bread alone.'" 5 Then the devil took Him up and revealed to Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 "I will give You the glory of these kingdoms and authority over them," the devil said, "because they are mine to give to anyone I please. 7 I will give it all to You if You will worship me." 8 Jesus replied, "**The Scriptures say**, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only Him.'" 9 Then the devil took Him to Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, and said, "If You are the Son of God, jump off! 10 For the Scriptures say, 'He will order His angels to protect and guard You. 11 And they will hold You up with their hands so You won't even hurt Your foot on a stone.'" 12 Jesus responded, "**The Scriptures also say**, 'You must not test the Lord your God.'" 13 When the devil had finished tempting Jesus, he left Him until the next opportunity came. 14 Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit's power. Reports about Him spread quickly through the whole region.*

What does the Bible teach us about temptation? (James 1:1-4)

What is our part in the temptation? (James 1:14)

What does Jesus' temptation tell us about God's view of temptation? (Hebrews 4:15-16)

What does Jesus' example teach us about resisting temptation? (James 4:7 / Luke 4:1-14)

Our authority in the wilderness comes from our surrender in the water.

What are the practical ways of immersing ourselves in the Word of God so that in times of temptation the Word of God will come out of us allowing us to resist the devil & stand firm?

Disturb Us, Lord

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves,

When our dreams have come true

Because we have dreamed too little,

When we arrived safely

Because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when

With the abundance of things we possess

We have lost our thirst

For the waters of life;

Having fallen in love with life,

We have ceased to dream of eternity

And in our efforts to build a new earth,

We have allowed our vision

Of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,

To venture on wider seas

Where storms will show Your mastery;

Where losing sight of land,

We shall find the stars.

We ask You to push back

The horizons of our hopes;

And to push into the future

In strength, courage, hope, and love.