

LUKE - Part 13 - Exposing the negatives

³⁸ the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

4 And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

Jesus came with a ministry to show us the Father and what it means for a Father and Son to work together. Part of His ministry was to come as the new Adam, to step into the wilderness and overcome temptation. By flipping the genealogy of Jesus, Luke allows for Adam the son of God and Jesus the son of God's temptation to be side by side, showing us where Adam failed, and Jesus overcame, thereby giving us a second chance to be the sons of God. If you want to join Jesus and minister effectively you have to be a son of God. You cannot represent the Father if you don't know the Father.

Jesus being led by the Spirit, and tempted in the wilderness becomes a pattern of how God allows temptation in our lives to expose the negatives in our lives. God doesn't allow these negatives to be exposed to leave us in that place, but rather by revealing the reality of the negatives, He invites us to expose them like a photograph negative to the light of God's truth and thereby destroying its power over us.

To mix our metaphor a little, God does this so that the true picture God wants to develop in our lives can be revealed to the world; that of our heavenly Father and his sons and daughters working together to change the world.

What negatives did God expose in your thinking this week?

- It must be right because everyone lives like this. (The Crowd)
- Living blinded by our possessions or abundance. (Prosperity)
- Relying on our own moral record? (Religion)

Strategies for overcoming temptation:

1. Fasting (confronting our natural desires, to rely more fully on God)
2. Bible (meditating on the Word of God)
3. Prayer (spending time with God)
4. Confession (Vulnerability with one another and exposing the negatives)

God is inviting us to partner with Him in building a base for current and future generations but the temptation is to build this base without it costing us anything.

- What is it going to cost you?