

# The Second Temptation Of Jesus

*"I have treasured Your word in my heart,  
So that I may not sin against You.  
Psalm 119:11 (NASB)*

*"And he led Him up and showed Him  
all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.  
And the devil said to Him, "I will give You all this domain and its glory,  
for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I want.  
Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all be Yours."  
Jesus replied to him, "It is written: 'You shall  
worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.'"  
Luke 4:5-8 (NASB)*

*"Therefore let the one who thinks he stands watch out that he does not fall."  
1 Corinthians 10:12 (NASB)*

**A**s a new Christian in the fall of 1960, I received instruction on how a believer should deal with the world. I was advised to avoid movie theatres, never use alcoholic beverages, not to smoke, and to avoid pool halls. I readily complied with these rules.

Sadly, no one instructed me on how to read my Bible, how to pray, witness, deal with temptation, or memorize Scripture. I struggled for years searching for Christian books on these vital subjects to help me grow in grace. I learned a valuable lesson on how to deal with temptation by a study of how Jesus dealt with it.

After the spiritual high of His baptism and the public commendation by the Father, our Lord was attacked by Satan. Often Satan's strategy is to attack when the believer is riding high after some spiritual victory. For example, Elijah dealt effectively with the prophets of Baal on

Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18, 19). Then he collapsed in fear of a Phoenician princess by the name of Jezebel and ran for his life.

Jonah's powerful preaching produced the greatest national revival of a pagan nation recorded in the Old Testament. Then he developed an angry response and went outside the city of Nineveh, sat down in a pout, and waited to see what Yahweh would do in response to the nation's repentance.

Some powerful 20th and 21st century western Christian leaders have had moral failures after they had risen to great heights in ministry.

While we must always be on guard against Satan's clever and subtle attacks, it is when we experience a low or a high event that we are especially vulnerable. Jesus answered every temptation with an appropriate quote from Scripture.

Having portions of the Bible hidden in our memory ready for instant retrieval is a wonderful tool in addressing temptation. If you are not involved in a Scripture memorization program do some research and find a suitable one to use. Have another member of your family join you in the work.

Have you been attacked by Satan lately? Did he sneak up on you when you thought you were beyond his grasp? Remember that our Good Shepherd knows all about our weakness. He is the leader Who never gives up on His troops. He wants you back on track today so come to Him and come now.

*"For He Himself knows our form;  
He is mindful that we are nothing  
but dust."*

Psalm 103:14 (NASB)

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