

WEEK: 2

TOPIC: THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

(A) SYNOPTISTS ACCOUNT OF THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS. MATT. 4: 1-11;

MK 1: 12-13; LUKE 4: 1-13,

(B) I. TEMPTATIONS IN THE WORLD TODAY

II. WAYS OF OVERCOMING TEMPTATIONS TO SIN TODAY.

(C) MEANS JESUS USED TO OVERCOME THE THREE TEMPTATIONS.

(D) SIGNIFICANCE OF EACH OF THE THREE TEMPTATION.

SUB TOPIC 1: SYNOPTISTS ACCOUNT OF THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS. (MATT. 4: 1-11; MARK 1: 12-13; LUKE 4: 1-13.)

MATTHEW 'S ACCOUNT OF THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS MATT. 4: 1-11.

According to Matthew, Jesus was taken by the Spirit into the wilderness to fast for forty days and was very hungry. The devil capitalised on the opportunity to know whether Jesus could use His spiritual power to satisfy His material wants. The devil wanted Jesus to change stones to loaves of bread. Jesus answered him by quoting the scriptures "Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."

When Satan failed in this, he took Jesus to the holy city, set him on the pinnacle of the temple and commanded Jesus to throw himself down from there that it was written that his angels would take charge of him. Jesus replied that it was written, "You shall not tempt the Lord your God."

On the third temptation, the devil took Jesus to a high mountain and showed him all the cities and their glories and promised to give all these to Jesus, only if he would fall down and worship him (the devil). When Jesus defeated the devil, he left him and the angels came and ministered unto Jesus.

Luke's Account of The Temptation

According to Luke, Jesus returned from Jordan and was equally led by the Spirit into the wilderness for forty days and he was tempted by the devil. The devil took the same procedure of temptation as in Matthew. The only differences from Luke are: Taking him to the high mountain which is the third in Matthew is second in Luke. Then after the temptation the devil departed from him (Jesus) until an opportune moment or time for Satan to come again.

Mark's Account of Jesus' Temptation (Mark 1: 12 & 13).

The Spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness for forty days tempted by Satan, and he was with beasts and the angels ministered to him (Jesus). While Matthew and Luke used the words "led up", Mark used "drove".

SUB TOPIC 3: i. TEMPTATIONS IN THE WORLD TODAY

In our community today, there are lots of temptations facing the children, youths and adults. They include:

1. Temptation to cheat and get involved in examination malpractices.

2. Temptation to lie and steal.
3. Temptation to engage in fraud or obtain things by hook or crook.
4. Temptation to disobey the laws and rules of the nation.
5. Temptation to disobey rules and regulations of the school

## II. WAYS OF OVERCOMING TEMPTATIONS TO SIN TODAY.

The following tips can help to overcome temptations today:

1. Be spiritually and physically disciplined.
2. Thirst and pray for the Holy Spirit power to help you in your christian journey.
3. Strictly rely on god and seek His help in time of temptation.
4. Mediate on the word of God and practice what you read.
5. Avoid negative influences. Strive to live a holy and God-fearing life.

### SUB TOPIC 4:MEANS JESUS USED TO OVERCOME THE THREE TEMPTATIONS.

1. Jesus challenged the devil by quotation from the word of God. Christians can also overcome temptation and the devil by challenging him with the word of God. Expounded
2. Jesus was tempted immediately after baptism and fasting – when he was close to God. He was was able to resist and overcome the devil through the power He got by prayer and fasting.
3. Jesus relied on God and He was able to overcome satan’s temptations.
4. Jesus was highly disciplined and that was why He was able to overcome the temptations.
5. Jesus placed priority on the spiritual needs rather than physical and perishing things of the world.

### SUB TOPIC 2:SIGNIFICANCE OF EACH OF THE THREE TEMPTATIONS.

1. If Jesus had yielded to the first temptation, He would have abused His Messiah ship and be an Economic or Material Messiah.
2. The second temptation would have reduced Jesus to the level of a Magician and Wonder Worker Messiah. If He had accepted to fall from the pinnacle.
3. If Jesus had succumbed to the request to bow down and worship satan in order to own the kingdoms of the world, He would have become a Political land Earthly Messiah

