

Pray like Jesus: You have an Enemy!

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – August 28, 2011

Matt 3:16-Matt 4:11

¹⁶ As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Matt 4:1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." ⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶ "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" ⁷ Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

1. THE BATTLE IS REAL, SATAN IS THE ENEMY AND HE WANTS TO DESTROY YOU.

Matt 6:13 "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

Eph 6:12

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

1 Peter 5:8-9

⁸ Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith...

2. SATAN TEMPTS US WHEN AND WHERE WE ARE MOST VULNERABLE— AND NO ONE IS EXEMPT.

Matthew 4:1

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.

Jesus was tempted with...

- PHYSICAL DESIRES: Jesus was tired and hungry.
- PRIDE & AMBITION: Jesus had just been baptized and anointed as the Son of God. Satan desired to sabotage His mission.
- IDOLATRY: "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." (Matt 4:9)

❑ Remember, TEMPTATION IS NOT SIN

Hebrews 4:15

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.

1 Corinthians 10:13

... God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

3. GOD HAS NOT LEFT US DEFENSELESS.

James 4:7

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

These are our weapons:

- THE STRONG NAME OF JESUS

Phil 2:10-11

¹⁰ at the name of Jesus every knee should bow...

Luke 10:17

The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

- **THE BLOOD OF JESUS & OUR TESTIMONY TO IT'S EFFECT IN US**

Rev 12:11

They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony;

- **GOD'S WORD**

Ephesians 6:13,17

13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.