

**June 23, 2019**

**Combatting Our Enemy**

**Things to Ponder This Week**

### **Introduction**

(Genesis 3:15; Luke 3:21-38)

We are aware that there is good and evil in the world that we live in. The Bible makes it clear that there is a spiritual being that is truly evil, and is o\_\_\_\_\_ to God. This enemy of God known as Satan (adversary), or the devil (a\_\_\_\_\_), is against all who desire to live for God and what is good.

### **Jesus vs. the devil**

(Luke 4:1-13; Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:14-17; Revelation 12:1-9; John 8:43-45; 1 Peter 5:8)

The attack by the devil was on Jesus' i\_\_\_\_\_ and worthiness as the Son of God. Note that the devil did not want to bow to Jesus as the Son of God. At the heart of Satan is p\_\_\_\_\_ and hatred toward God, which fuels everything that he does. Jesus combatted the devil by being s\_\_\_\_\_ in His identity as the Son of God. He relied on His r\_\_\_\_\_ with the Father, was strengthened by the Holy Spirit, and battled with the W\_\_\_\_\_ of God.

### **Our Identity and Victory in Christ**

(John 1:12-13; Romans 5:19; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 6:10-17; 1 John 4:4; John 10:7-11,27-30)

Although we are all born as a sinner, through f\_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus Christ as our Savior, we can become a child of God. If the devil attacked Jesus' identity and w\_\_\_\_\_ as the Son of God, then it is no wonder that he will accuse us of not truly being children of \_\_\_\_\_. As Jesus combatted the devil by being secure in His identity as the Son of God, we too need to be secure in our identity as children of God by relying on our relationship with the Father, being strengthened by the Holy S\_\_\_\_\_, and combatting our enemy with the Word of God.

Based on Luke 4:1-4, what can we learn regarding Jesus' trust and reliance on the Holy Spirit's leading? In what way did the devil tempt Jesus? In what similar ways might the devil tempt you? What does Jesus' response to the devil teach you about where Jesus found strength to live each day?

Based on Luke 4:5-13, what can we learn regarding the devil's focus and intent? In what ways might the devil tempt you along these lines? Prayerfully read 1 Corinthians 10:13 and James 1:12-18. Based on these passages of Scripture, how might you overcome temptations that come your way?

Based on Ephesians 6:10-17 and 1 John 4:4, and John 10:7-11, 27-30, why is our trust and comfort in God through our faith in Jesus important in combatting the devil? If you feel overwhelmed by the attacks of the devil, turn to God for comfort, and place your complete trust in Jesus, who not only was victorious over sin and death, but also the devil. Also, seek a fellow believer to pray for you and your struggle.

Next Sunday is our Sharing Sunday. Prayerfully consider how God has been good to you, or has given victory over a struggle in your life. Pray also about possibly sharing this with the church family during next Sunday's worship service.