

LESSONS FROM JESUS' TEMPTATION

by Larry R. Ping II

In Matthew's account of Jesus' temptation (**Matthew 4:1-11**), there are many and varied lessons to learn. Consider these with me.

1) EVERYONE WHO WALKS ON EARTH IS TEMPTED. To this fact Jesus was not an exception. Even our Lord was enticed to do those things which are wrong. Paul notified his readers that temptation is “*common*” to man (**1 Corinthians 10:13**).

2) THE DEVIL WILL TEMPT MAN AT HIS WEAKEST POINT. A simple reading of our text will indicate Jesus had been fasting 40 days and nights. I think we can safely assume he was very hungry — in fact, famished. So what does

the devil tempt Him to do first? Make stones into bread! Do not be foolish enough to disregard the fact Satan will find the weak point and attack it!

3) SCRIPTURE IS OUR MOST EFFECTIVE WEAPON AGAINST TEMPTATION. But, it can only be part of our arsenal if we study and meditate upon it daily (**Acts 17:11**). Knowing God's Law is a priceless attribute. David knew this as he wrote “*Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee*” (**Psalms 119:11**). Jesus used Scripture as each temptation mounted — we should too!

4) SATAN IS DILIGENT IN HIS BUSINESS. And his business is simple — cause

folks to stay away and go away from God. When Jesus rebuffed Him once, he came at Him again. As Jesus denied Satan a second time, the tempter returned for a third attempt. He will do the same in our lives.

5) THE DEVIL WILL FLEE EVENTUALLY. The words of James are as true today as when they were written — “*Resist the devil, and he will flee from you*” (**James 4:7**). When Jesus rejected the devil's third and final temptation, he fled. The same can be and is true of us. We must fight the urge to sin. We repel the devil's pleas, and he will flee. But do not make the mistake of thinking he will not return, for he surely will — and we must be ready to battle again!

OUR GOSPEL MEETING WITH LARRY R. PING II BEGINS TODAY!

We welcome you as our special series of Bible lessons with Larry R. Ping II gets underway. We are privileged to have Larry, his wife (Melisa), and their four children (Madison, Lauren, Trey, and Levi) with us this week! The Ping family live in Melbourne, Florida and work with the Eau Gallie church of Christ. Under the oversight of the elders of the Eau Gallie church of Christ, Larry conducts an annual Summer Preacher Training Program designed to help men learn to do “the work of an evangelist.” The next program will be this summer during the week of July 23-29. Brother Ping is an excellent gospel preacher! You will find the lessons he presents to be simple and Scriptural. He does not offer his opinion or the wisdom of men, but always speaks as the oracles of God (1 Pet. 4:11). We encourage you to attend every service, with your Bible and heart open, and search the scriptures whether these things are so (Acts 17:11).

LESSONS FROM THE PEN OF HOSEA

by Larry R. Ping II

The book of Hosea is one from which we can draw many valuable lessons. Those teachings include...

1) GOD'S USE OF

EXAMPLES. During the days of Hosea, the people of God had committed "spiritual adultery." They had gone after other gods, and left the One and Only God behind. Thus, God instructed Hosea to select and marry a woman known for prostitution (**Hosea 1:2-3**). God indeed does have a plan for all He does and how He does it. Jesus similarly taught in the New Testament when teaching in parables.

2) GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY.

Even though His people left Him, God, in time, was willing to offer

a second chance. This was taught by example once again. Hosea's wife, Gomer, left him and went to others. Yet, Hosea lovingly took her back (**Hosea 3:3**). God has always been willing to offer these opportunities to His people. One needs not read very far into the Bible to see this fact.

3) GOD'S REQUIREMENT OF HIS PEOPLE NEEDING

KNOWLEDGE. Though the offer for another opportunity was afforded, some refused to take it. One of the bigger culprits for such was clearly stated in **Hosea 4:6** — "*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I*

will also forget thy children." God calls upon His people to know His will (**Ephesians 5:17**). It then is essential for us to open the Word and study it (**II Timothy 2:15**). Not doing so will lead to the same destructive destination.

4) GOD HAS BEEN VERY CLEAR — DISOBEDIENCE BRINGS DEVASTATING

CONSEQUENCES. Some of God's people through the ages seemed to think they could please God and escape His wrath even though they were not obedient. Unfortunately, those sorts of people are still around. It cannot be clearer than the pen of Paul — God will exact "*vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel*" (**II Thessalonians 1:8**).

SCHEDULE FOR THIS GOSPEL MEETING WEEK:

Our series will begin with Bible class at 10:00 am as we study the topic: "*My speech and My Preaching*" (1 Cor. 2:4). Worship will be at 11:00 am with the sermon: "*Owe No Man Anything*" (Rom. 13:8). We will come together this afternoon at 2:30 and sing for about 30 minutes with preaching following on the subject: "*But God*" (Lk. 12:20). Services will continue Monday through Friday nightly at 7:00 with the following themes: Monday — "*The Same Hour of the Night*" (Acts 16:33), Tuesday — "*Buried With Him in Baptism*" (Col. 2:12), Wednesday — "*The Father Seeketh Such*" (Jn. 4:23), Thursday — "*Why Tarriest Thou?*" (Acts 22:16), and Friday — "*Then Cometh the End*" (1 Cor. 15:24). Come be with us!

The Terre Haute **SPEAKER** is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

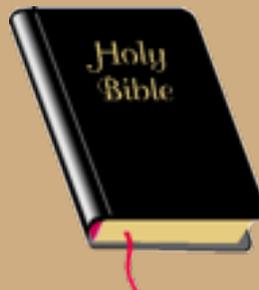
Assembling At:

4017 E Margaret DR
Terre Haute, IN 47803
[Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46,
W on Margaret DR approx. 1 mile]

Assembling Times:

Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Come be with us!



We Speak Where the Bible Speaks.

We Are Silent Where the Bible Is Silent.

We Do Bible Things in Bible Ways.

www.churchofchristatterrehaute.com