

The problem this sermon addresses for us is the problem of temptation.

Read the following article:

<http://www.internetmonk.com/archive/a-short-list-of-troublingly-common-sins>

Make a list of common temptations and sins you all face everyday. Be honest and really get a good list going.

In this passage you see Jesus identified with His people against the devil, against the lust of the flesh, against the pride of life, and against the lust of the eyes, and did not sin.

### **Jesus identified with His people (Matthew 3:13-17) Against the Devil (Matthew 4:1)**

- Who drove Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted? Mark 1:12
  - Why would God want to see Jesus tempted?
- Read 1 Corinthians 15:45.
  - How does Jesus being the second Adam answer the above question?
- Read Luke 3:22-4:1.
  - What does Luke put in the middle of the story? Why?
- Read Genesis 3:1-6.
  - How do you act like the first Adam in your life specifically?
  - How were they tempted?
- Read 1 John 2:15-17.
  - What are the three ways the world is tempting to us?

### **Against the lust of the flesh (Matthew 4:2-4)**

- Satan tried to tempt Jesus with the lust of the flesh asking: “surely the Son of God is entitled to a little bread in His self imposed human exile?” Jesus responded by quoting Deuteronomy 8:1-3.
  - How does this passage address the lust of the flesh?
- Read the following article and discuss: <http://www.kellybonewell.com/psychology/adultery-just-the-statistics/>

### **Against the pride of life (Matthew 4:5-7)**

- Satan tried to tempt Jesus with the boastful pride of life remarking: “since you have such confidence in God’s provision (manna) why not show everyone this confidence and throw yourself down from this tower, after all ‘it is written,’ that He will catch You?”
- Read Psalm 91:11-12.
  - How did Satan misquote this psalm; what did he leave out?
- Read Deuteronomy 6:16 and then exodus 17:1-7.
  - How do these passages address the pride of life, or the temptation for fame and recognition?
- read the following spoof article posted by our very own Pastor Paul in his blog called ‘Mommy wars,’ and discuss: <http://www.larknews.com/archives/4291>

### **Against the lust of the eyes (Matthew 4:8-10)**

- Satan tried to tempt Jesus with the lust of the eyes, showing Him a crown without a cross.
- Read John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11 and 2 Corinthians 4:4.
  - Notice that Satan was making a real offer to Jesus if He would only compromise like everyone else does and worship him.
- Read Deuteronomy 6:1-15.
  - How does this passage address the temptation to covet other gods and take our eyes off God?
- Read the following article and discuss: <http://www.gotquestions.org/lust-of-the-eyes.html>

### **And did not sin (Matthew 4:11)**

Matt. 4:11 ¶ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

- Read Ephesians 2:1-5.
  - What are the three enemies we face today, the three enemies Jesus defeated?
- Read Philippians 2:5-11. The Incarnation was Christ laying aside the independent use of His deity. He fought these three enemies of our as a Man.
- This is the main idea of the sermon:
  - **Christ did not overcome temptation using special powers, He overcame temptation as a man**
- This fact condemns us and challenges us who are Christian, possessing the same weapons to fight against sin.

Enemy number one:

- Read 1 John 2:15-17 again.
  - what is our first enemy?
- Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-14; 6:18; 1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Timothy 2:22; Genesis 39:6-18 and John 6:15.
  - what is our strategy against worldly temptations?

Enemy number two:

- Read James 1:12-18.
  - What is our second enemy?
- Read Galatians 5:16-23.
  - What is our strategy against the flesh?

Enemy number three:

- Read 1 Peter 5:8.
  - Who is our third enemy?
- Read Matthew 16:21-23; Ephesians 6:10-18a; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5.
  - what is our strategy against the Devil?

-Finally, read Hebrews 2:14-18; 4:14-16.

-It is good news that we can overcome temptation but it is not The good news in this passage.

-The good news is that Jesus did not sin. His deity was not at stake but His ability to be our savior was. Jesus did not sin and was therefore qualified to stand in our place. And qualified to give us His.

Based on this message how might you address the sins in the list you made at the beginning?

Discuss specific ways to apply this message in your lives.