



A New Hope #3

9/25/22

Luke 4:1-13

1. Drew began the sermon by talking about our “instant culture” and how a mentality that says “we want it now!” quickly leads to discontentment.

**When have you become frustrated with something that didn't happen right away?

**What does it mean for you to “wait on the Lord?” (i.e. Isaiah 27:7-9, 40:31, James 5:7-8)

2. In Luke 4:1-2, we read that Jesus was *led by the Spirit* into the wilderness *to be tempted by the devil*.

**Does this mean that God was involved in the temptation of Jesus?

**If so, does that mean that God allows us to be tempted?

For more discussion: Another way to interpret the word translated as “tempt” is “test.” One lexicon defines it this way: *to endeavor to discover the nature or character of something by testing*. Consider the connotations of those two words in English.

**What is different about a test when compared to a temptation?

**If the scripture read: “Jesus was tested by the devil,” would anything change?

**Which translation do you prefer for this story of the devil testing/tempting Jesus?

**What was this test/temptation intended to do for Jesus, and for us who read this story?

3. In Matthew's version of this story (Mt 4:1-11) the character that tempts/tests Jesus is represented by three Greek words 1) devil (*diabolos*), 2) tempter (*peirazo*), 3) satan (*satanas*). Only devil and satan are used in Luke.

**What do you understand this devil/satan/tempter character to be and where have we met him before?

**What do you picture him looking like?

**Is what you think of actually described in scripture?

4. Drew listed three points that come out of this story: We are tempted to 1) doubt that God is good, 2) doubt God's plan for our lives, 3) test God's faithfulness.

****Which of these three do you find yourself falling into most often?**

****Regardless of how often you "fail the test," what can you realistically do in order to "pass the test" more often?**

****Can we really ever pass the test?**