Sermon Series: Tempted in All Ways, Yet Without Sin (Luke 4:1-13)

Part 1: Led by the Spirit, Tempted by the Devil (Luke 4:1-2)

Jesus went to the wilderness to restore us to Paradise.

Adam-Israel-Christ—Israel recapitulates Adam's trial and fails; Christ recapitulates Adam's and Israel's trial and prevails

1) Jesus went in humble reliance upon the Holy Spirit.

- a) "full of the Holy Spirit"—completely occupied with, characterized by, and submitted to the Holy Spirit
- b) "led by the Spirit in the wilderness"—Matt. and Mark emphasize the Spirit's role in compelling Jesus into the wilderness; Luke looks beyond this to the Spirit's leading during Jesus sojourn
- c) "the wilderness"—Isaiah 13:21; 34:14 the haunt of demons
- d) "forty days"—paralleling 40 years of Israel's wilderness wandering

2) Jesus went with a mission to glorify God.

- a) Adam's and Israel's temptation called God's wisdom, truthfulness, and goodness into question—when they sinned they dishonored God as unwise, untrustworthy, and malicious
- b) Satan's temptation of Job illustrates that the real issue is the glory of God: "Does Job fear God for no reason?" Satan's challenge was that no one would love God for Himself, only for His gifts.
- c) Jesus shows that God's glory is supreme. Jesus responds to each of the temptations by showing supreme regard for God.

3) Jesus went with a mission to combat the devil.

- a) "Now Jesus stepped right up to the gates of hell." Philip Graham Ryken
- b) Jesus came to "destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8) and to "destroy the one who through the power of death held men in lifelong slavery to the fear of death—that is, the devil" (Heb. 2:14-15)
- c) Satan, armed with deceit despoiled our first parents. Christ, full of the Spirit and armed with truth resists the devil and the devil flees from Him.
- d) This scene shows the power behind all of the opposition to Jesus, political, "religious", and popular.

4) Jesus went with a mission to deliver us from the darkness and bring us into His Kingdom.

- a) Jesus faced the devil as the Last Adam and True Israel who represented a Redeemed Humanity.
- b) Recall Zechariah's prophecy in Luke 1:78-79

5) Christ for us and Christ in us

- a) Christ's perfect obedience made Him a sinless sacrifice that God accepted as a substitute for sinners.
- b) Christ's perfect obedience is imputed to His people.
- c) Christ's victory over the devil here anticipates the canceling of Satan's authority at the cross.
- d) Christ, who bore the Spirit in fullness has poured out the Holy Spirit on His people so that the same power that was at work in His incarnation to overcome the devil is also at work in us.
- e) "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you" (Rom. 16:20).