

First Sunday in Lent Year C - RCL

Skaneateles, New York
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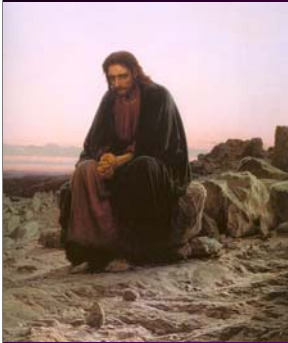


The Temptation of Christ
by Sandro Botticelli

<http://www.kfi.hu/~artp/html/b/botticel/sistina/temptati/index.html>

Let's look at some pictures! Do you see all the temptation scenes in this picture?

Luke 4.1-13
The Temptation of Jesus



<http://cofa.susito.dk/A/p-krasov3.htm>

<http://uts.cc.utexas.edu/~janknegt/r0182.html>



How do these capture what is going on in the temptation of Jesus?



Rembrandt van Rijn
*Satan Tempting Christ to Change Stones
into Bread*, c. 1632/1633

<http://www.nga.gov/cgi-bin/pimage?1859+0+0>



From Martin Luther's *Enchiridion plarum precatonum*

http://www.patb.cmcv.edu/dia/tefla5_cfm?ID=453



Two additional items:

- 1) [Chapter 5, "The Grand Inquisitor,"](#) in *The Brothers Karamazov* by Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoevsky has played a critical role in the modern understanding of the story.
- 2) Temptation Scene in *Jesus* (movie from 2000). Kind of a cheesy movie in many ways (Watch Jesus having a water fight with the disciples!!!), but they got the temptation right in a number of ways. Worth watching for this part.

Luke 4.1-4

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness,² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread."⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

<http://www.angels.edu/~janknogr/0117.html>

Luke 4.5-8



<http://uts.cc.utexas.edu/~lanknc01/0181.html>

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Luke 4.9-12



<http://uts.cc.utexas.edu/~lanknc01/0180.html>

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹ and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Luke 4.13

¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Matthew	Luke	OT
Bread	Bread	Deut 8.3
Temple	Dominions	Deut 6.13
Dominions	Temple	<i>Ps 91.11f</i> Deut 6.16

What is the logic of the progression?

What is the role of Scripture?

Luke wants the scene to end up in Jerusalem... just as the critical moment in Jesus' ministry will also end up in Jerusalem.

It is not just a matter of citing Scripture to make a point. It is a matter of interpreting it properly.

πειραζω – πειρασμος

- Frames pericope: verses 2 and 13
- Definition
 - 1. an attempt to learn the nature or character of someth., *test, trial*
 - 2. an attempt to make one do someth. wrong, *temptation, enticement to sin.*
- Relation to Lord's Prayer

We usually talk about this pericope as the "Temptation" of Jesus, but note that the Greek word πειραζω has a wider range of meaning. It is also a time of testing/trial for Jesus that establishes his identity and mission.

In a similar manner, recall how we pray in the Lord's Prayer (Matthew's version): "Lead us not into temptation/trial/testing..." Scripture repeatedly acknowledges that such trials are unavoidable and even necessary (1 Cor 10.13; 1 Peter 4.12). Such testings may not be pleasant, but the prayer is to be delivered from evil.

Comments