

Mark 1:9-13 **Baptism and Tempting of Jesus**

⁹ It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. ¹¹ Then a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

¹² And immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. ¹³ And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to Him.
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Facts Revealed:

Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist – Acknowledgement by God

- ✚ Mark is presenting Jesus as the servant and example, so he gives a very condensed version of the baptism and temptation. [Mark 1:9-11, and 12-13, Luke 3:21-22, 4:1-12]
 - ✧ Mark includes the fact that when Jesus came up out of the water He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Jesus like a dove.
 - ✧ Then the Voice from Heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased."
 - ✧ Immediately after God audibly acknowledged Jesus as His Son in a testimony far above any testimony of any man, The Holy Spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted.
 - ✧ Jesus was in the wilderness 40 days with the wild beasts.
 - ✧ Satan tempted Him.
 - ✧ Angels ministered to Him.
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- ✚ Luke Portrays Jesus in His Humanity as a man, Though the Son of God:
 - ✧ Luke gives a brief account of the Baptism of Jesus.
 - ✧ Like Mark, Luke records that the Heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove and alighted upon Jesus as Jesus prayed. [Luke 3:22]
 - ✧ Personal Prayer is shown as part of the Baptism of Jesus. [Luke 3:21]
 - ✧ Then the voice from Heaven acknowledged Jesus as the Son of God and well pleasing to the Father. [Luke 3:22]
 - ✧ Thus showing all three members of the Godhead present at the same time and each individually separate from the other. Jesus in the water praying, the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove empowering Jesus, and the Father's voice from Heaven declaring that Jesus is His Own Son, and well pleasing to the Father.

Matthew gives a more detail revelation of the events:

- ✚ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. [Matthew 3:13]
- ✚ John felt unworthy to baptize Jesus, knowing that Jesus is the One he was speaking of when he had said: [Matthew 3:14]
 - “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” [Matthew 3:11-12]
- ✚ John said, “I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me? [Matthew 3:14]

- ✚ The answer Jesus gave reveals the truth that Jesus came to be our example in all things pertaining to our relationship with God, and righteousness. John accepted the answer. [\[Matthew 3:15\]](#)
- ✚ Baptism is a righteous thing to do.
- ✚ When Jesus had been baptized, He immediately came up out of the water. [\[Matthew 3:16\]](#)
 - ✧ The Heavens were opened to Him, and John saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Jesus. [\[Matthew 3:16, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:22, John 1:29-34\]](#)
 - ✧ Suddenly a Voice from Heaven said, “This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.” [\[Matthew 3:17, Mark 1:11, Luke 3:22, John 1:29-34\]](#)
- ✚ The three persons of the Trinity are present and seen to be separate, yet together.
 - ✧ Jesus had just come up out of the water and standing on the shore.
 - ✧ The Holy Spirit in the form of a dove descended from Heaven.
 - ✧ The Father speaking with a Voice from Heaven.
- ✚ God thus put His stamp of approval on this act of righteousness, and publicly acknowledged the person of Jesus to be His Son. [\[Matthew 3:17, 17:5, Mark 9:7, Luke 3:22, 9:35, 1 John 5:9\]](#)

God requires all His sons to be tested and proved

- ✚ After the Baptism of Jesus, when God in all His Godhead had just acknowledged His good pleasure in Jesus, it is now time to test the metal of the inner person. Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. [\[Matthew 4:1\]](#)
 - ✧ God had tested Abraham by asking him to sacrifice the son of promise. [\[Genesis 22:1-19\]](#)
 - ✧ God allowed Satan to test Job. [\[Job 1:6-22, 2:1-7\]](#)
 - ✧ There are advantages for standing up to temptation. [\[James 1:2-4, 12, 1 Peter 1:5-7\]](#)
- ✚ When Jesus had fasted forty days and forty nights, and he was hungry, Satan came to Him and began his testing process.
 - ✧ Satan always makes his attack when he thinks we are at our weakest point.

Temptation touching the physical body, its needs, and cravings [\[Matthew 4:3-4, Luke 4:3-4\]](#)

- ✚ Satan said to Jesus, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”
- ✚ Jesus answered with a Scriptural reason for saying “NO.” “It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'” [\[Deuteronomy 8:3\]](#)
 - ✧ A perfect example to us to demonstrate what is meant, and how to go about, resisting the devil.

Temptation to draw the attention of the masses by doing some spectacular demonstration to fulfill His Calling of reaching the people with the Gospel message [\[Matthew 4:5-7, Luke 4:9-12\]](#)

- ✚ Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written:

'He shall give His angels charge over you,'

and,

'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'

- ✧ As with the temptation of Eve in the Garden of Eden, Satan does not quote the Words of God accurately. But he does demonstrate that he knows what God has said.
- ✧ The actual text he is making reference to is as follows:
 - [\[Psalm 91:9-13\]](#)
 - 9 Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, Even the Most High, your dwelling place,
 - 10 No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling;

11 For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways.
12 In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.
13 You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

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✚ Jesus answered him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'" [Matthew 4:7]

✧ Again Jesus uses a gentle "NO" in the form of another appropriate Scriptural quote. [Deuteronomy 16:6]

Temptation to accomplish His purpose of reaching the world the easy way [Matthew 4:8-10, Luke 4:5-8]

✚ Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." [Matthew 4:8-9]

✧ The way would be easy, the price too high.

✚ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' " [Matthew 4:10, Exodus 20:2-5, 34:14, Deuteronomy 4:35-39, 5:6-9, 28:14, etc.]

✚ Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him. [Matthew 4:11, Mark 1:13, Luke 4:13]

✧ Angels are ministering spirits sent to minister for those who will inherit salvation. [Hebrews 1:14]

✚ Jesus was tempted in every point as we are, yet without sin. [Hebrews 4:14-15]

✚ Scripture says, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you [James 4:7]

✧ Still in this story we discover that the devil does not always flee away at the first resistance, but he doggedly strives to find a way to cause us to yield.

✧ After Jesus continued to say no to all the temptations, and demanded that Satan go away, then the devil left Him, and angels came and ministered to Him.

✧ Even then we learn that the devil only left Him for a time waiting for a more opportune moment to come. [Luke 4:13]

✚ Satan can not force us to yield to temptation, he can only entice us to want to do so. [James 1:14, 1 Corinthians 10:13, 1 Peter 1:2]

✚ The choice to yield to temptation or resist, lies with our own will, and we will be held accountable for the choices we make.

✚ Jesus set the right example, and God gave us the necessary information for discernment.

✚ The choice is yours. Choose wisely.

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