

# Ice Breaker

- What's is a virtue that you strive for?
- What do you think is a virtue that your best friend strives for?

# Jesus' Baptism and Temptation

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# Sources

- **Jesus Christ: The Greatest Life**

# Bible Verses on Jesus' Baptism

**3** In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea **2** and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." **3** This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
'Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.'" **[a]**

**4** John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. **5** People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. **6** Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

# Bible Verses on Jesus' Baptism

**7** But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? **8** Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. **9** And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. **10** The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.



# Bible Versus on Jesus' Baptism

**11** “I baptize you with[b] water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with[c] the Holy Spirit and fire. **12** His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”



# Bible Verses on Jesus' Baptism

**13** Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. **14** But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

**15** Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

# Bible Verses on Jesus' Baptism

**16** As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. **17** And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."



# Dating of John's Ministry

- Augustus Caesar reigned from 27 B.C. to his death on August 19. A. D. 14.
- Tiberius Caesar reigned from the death of Augustus to his own death in A.D. 37.
- The fifteenth year of reign of Tiberius Caesar would be in A.D.28. Scholars believe John's ministry began in June of that year.

# Relationship between John's and Jesus' ministry

- Jesus evidently waited for Israel's repentance at John's ministry to take effect, thus preparing the nation of the coming of Jesus' Messianic mission.

# Purpose of John's ministry

- John's mission was to call the nation to its knees in repentance. This served to polarize the nation between the penitent and the proud. His baptism pointed to Messiah who would baptize in the Holy Spirit with fire.

# Differences between John's and Christian baptism

- John's baptism identified the penitent people who looked for God's Kingdom. Christian baptism identifies the believer with Christ in His death and resurrection.

# Purpose of Jesus' baptism

- He was anointed by the Holy Spirit to work in His power. He was identified by the Father as His beloved Son who would do His good pleasure. This one of the clearest and most complete revelations of the three persons of the Trinity. He accomplished what is right.

# Bible Verses on Jesus' Temptation

**Matthew 4:1-11 New International Version (NIV)**

**Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness**

**1** Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted[a] by the devil. **2** After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. **3** The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

**4** Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’[b]”

# Bible Verses on Jesus' Temptation

**5** Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. **6** “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written:

““He will command his angels concerning you,  
and they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a  
stone.’[c]”

**7** Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’[d]”

# Bible Verses on Jesus' Temptation

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. **9** “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”  
**10** Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’ [e]”  
**11** Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.



# Why was Jesus led by the Spirit into the desert

- Coming soon after his baptism, this trial was designed to demonstrate His resolve to do only the will of the Father (not gratifying Himself), and to work only in the Spirit's power (not His own).

# What Satan was trying to get Jesus to do in his temptation

- Basically to lure Him to independence of the Father's will, as he had also tempted Adam and Eve to independent gratification apart from the Father's will. This he sought to do by offering shortcuts to achieve his kingdom goals, by alluring compromise, independent of the Father's will and the Spirit's power.

# What was Jesus' basic weapon in combating the devil?

- Jesus demonstrated that the most effective weapon against Satan is God's word. The effective pattern for victory is doing the Father's will in the Spirit's power, always using the written word of God (not human arguments). Satan's defeat was temporary.

# How did Jesus respond to Satan's claim that the "kingdoms of the world" all belong to him?

- Satan is the prince of this world, though he usurped the power. The Lord didn't argue with him but reminded him that He was also "Man" and the first priority of everyone is to worship God alone. He rested in the confidence of Psalm 2:8 that the Father Himself would one day give Him the "ends of the earth as His inheritance so He had no desire to obtain them now." If Jesus believed that Satan did not have control of the kingdom of the world, Satan's offer would not have been a temptation to Jesus.

# What I learned from Jesus' baptism

- The events leading to and including Jesus' baptism were in many ways consistent with Bible's prophecy about the Messiah. Yet, people denied him as the son of God. In hind sight, this could be because people thought Messiah would possess a lot of power to save them from the repression of Romans and make life better. Instead, Jesus came to enlighten us about God's will and help us through emotional difficulties caused by external hardships.

# What I learned from Jesus' temptation

- I think our attraction to material needs, feeling of being secure and power over other people are the sources of our sinful nature. They separated us from God in that they cause us to misunderstand God's will as the "projection" theory suggests. Jesus is our bridge to God, because through his unbiased interpretation of the world, we would be able to understand God's will better.

# What I need to work on?

- I too often think what I desire is also God's preference.
- Therefore, when I interpret what happens around me based on my understanding of God's will, I often get frustrated.
- For example, if I think every one wants to be the 1st in the class, then, when I don't get along with a classmate, I would likely think it's because of competition.
- I would like to learn from Jesus to tame my desires so that I have a more rational interpretation of God's will.

# Application

- What do you think is the purpose of Jesus' life?