

July 15

Jesus and Satan

Hear, Israel: Yahweh is our God; Yahweh is one: and you shall love Yahweh your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.

— Deuteronomy 6:4-5

[Matthew 4:1-11, wilderness of Judea] Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. *He was with the wild animals, and* when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was hungry afterward (he ate nothing in those days). The tempter—the devil—came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”

But he answered, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.’” [Deuteronomy 8:3]

Then the devil took him into Jerusalem, the holy city. He set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you.’ and,

‘On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you don’t dash your foot against a stone.” [Psalm 91:11-12]

Get behind me, Satan! ... ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and you shall serve him only.

Jesus said to him, “Again, it is written, ‘You shall not test the Lord, your God.’” [Deuteronomy 6:16]

Again, the devil took him to an exceedingly high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and their glory. He said to him, “I will give you all of these things, if you will fall down and worship me. I will give you all this authority, and their glory, for it has been delivered to me; and I give it to whomever I want. If you therefore will worship before me, it will all be yours.”

Then Jesus said to him, “Get behind me, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and you shall serve him only.’” [Deuteronomy 6:13]

When the devil had completed every temptation, he departed from him until another time, and behold, angels came and served him.

[Luke 4:1-13, Mark 1:13]

1. What kind of temptations did Jesus face? What kinds do you face today?
2. How did Jesus resist the devil? How will you resist him today?
3. Yahweh, you are my one and only God; please help me love you with all my heart...