

## International Conversation Cafe

New Testament: Jesus Faces Temptation, Luke 4

When Abraham Lincoln, the 16<sup>th</sup> president of the United States, came into office, many people did not believe he could do the job of holding the Union together. By the time of his death however, Lincoln became one of the most well respected presidents who ever lived. What happened? We could say that Lincoln passed the test. He led the country through its most difficult time, inspiring trust by his wisdom, courage, and kindness. In the end, he united the country and gave freedom to slaves.

We learn to trust someone because we see how he or she handles difficult choices and temptations (the desire to do wrong). The devil (an evil spirit) brought temptation to Jesus when he was very weak physically. Understanding how Jesus handled these tests gives us confidence in him.

When John introduced Jesus at his baptism, God confirmed his choice of Jesus by these words, "You are my son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." God then directed Jesus to go to the desert. Read through the account from Luke and take time to answer the questions.

### **Temptation of Jesus- Luke 4**

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan River. The Spirit led him into the desert. There the devil tempted him for 40 days.

Jesus ate nothing during that time. At the end of the 40 days, he was hungry.

The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."

Jesus answered, "It is written, 'Man doesn't live only on bread.'" (Deuteronomy 8:3)

*Restate what the devil suggested. What was Jesus' response?*

*Explain what would be wrong with the devil's suggestion?*

*What do you think is the significance of the statement, "Man doesn't live only on bread?"*

Then the devil led Jesus up to a high place. In an instant, he showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world. He said to him, "I will give you all their authority and glory. It has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. So, if you worship me, it will all be yours."

Jesus answered, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God. He is the only one you should serve.'" (Deuteronomy 6:13)

*Restate what the devil suggested and tell how Jesus responded.*

*In what way might the offer of the devil be appealing to Jesus?*

*What kinds of things do we worship besides God?*



Armusik, Eric. The Temptation of Christ.  
2011. [armusik.com](http://armusik.com)

Look at the painting. Describe what you see. How do you feel about the painting?

Jesus did not give into temptation, ever. He remained loyal to God and completed the work God gave him to do. The writer to the book of Hebrews suggests that we can have confidence in Jesus because he overcame temptation.

Hebrews 4:14-16

We have a great high priest. He has gone up into the heavens. He is Jesus the Son of God. So, let us hold firmly to what we say we believe.

We have a high priest who can feel it when we are weak and hurting. We have a high priest who has been tempted in every way, just as we are. But he did not sin. So, let us boldly approach the throne of grace. Then we will receive mercy. We will find grace to help us when we need it.

*What words are new?*

*What is the main thought stated in Hebrews 4:14-16?*

*Why do you think it is important that Jesus went through temptation?*

*Describe your attitude toward Jesus knowing he did not give into temptation?*