



## CUNNING

Week 9: WHAT JESUS SAYS, PART I  
Jesus in the Synoptic Gospels  
2024 WINTER SERIES - Wednesday Night Church

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|---|--|---|
| 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> – In the Beginning                      | 2/21 <sup>st</sup> O – Hist./Wis Lt.?                            | 4/10 RCB – Pauline Lit.   |
| 1/10 <sup>th</sup> – O.T. Pent. The Battle Begins: Part I | 2/28 <sup>th</sup> RCB-Wk.8 MIC                                  | 4/17 <sup>th</sup> O – Epistles   |
| 1/17 <sup>th</sup> RCB Prayer: Having the Conversation    | 3/6 <sup>th</sup> - JESUS Says Part I                            | 4/2 <sup>th</sup> O – Revelation  |
| 1/24 <sup>th</sup> – O.T. The Battle                      | 3/13 <sup>th</sup> O Jesus Says Part II                          | WILL THIS SERIES GO UNTIL MAY?  |
| 1/31 <sup>st</sup> – RCB Prophetic                        | 3/20 <sup>th</sup> O – What John Saw                             | ▪ <b>Chew On This Podcast</b> -drops Thur pm/Fri am-moving to our radio station <b>WAJC 91.7/88.1 FM</b> in February-Thursdays @8:30-9:30am |
| 2/7 <sup>th</sup> – Water Baptism                         | 3/27 <sup>th</sup> O – Acts I<br>(Easter is 3/31 <sup>st</sup> ) |   |
| 2/14 <sup>th</sup> RCB -Ordinances?                       | 4/3 <sup>rd</sup> O – Acts II                                    |   |



- STUDY NOTES: Pr. Mike and Pr. Orleen's and Pr. Robin's sermon series and study notes.
- Kingdom Principles – Hayford, J. W. 1995. Hayford's Bible handbook. Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nashville
- **BOOK:** Cook, W. F., III, & Lawless, C. (2019). *Spiritual warfare in the storyline of scripture*. B&H Academic.
- **Handouts:** **Week 1:** Angelic Beings, H.O. of Week 1 Outline Notes. **Week 2:** H.O. of Week 2 Outline Notes.
- **Week 3:** Prayer reference; Sequence of Power **Week 5:** Daniel's Timeline

## CUNNING: The Spiritual Battle from Genesis to Revelation

*I am sending you out like sheep amongst wolves...Matthew 10:16*

*so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. NRSV*

**Luke 10:3** *Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.*

**Romans 16:19** *For your obedience is known to all; therefore, I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise in what is good and guileless in what is evil. NRSV*

**Our Definition of CUNNING:** ~~Having or showing skill in achieving one's ends by deceit or evasion.~~  
Having or showing skill in achieving one's ends by:  
Knowledge. Wisdom. Shrewdness. Skill. Resourcefulness. Cleverness. Practice.

## WEEK 9: What Jesus Says – Part I

(New Testament: Jesus in the Synoptic Gospels)

<https://www.wisechristians.com/spiritual-warfare-verses-in-the-old-and-new-testament/>

### Old Testament

- **Satan's rebellion:** Isaiah 14:12-20; Ezekiel 28:11-19.
- **Satan tempts Adam and Eve (Genesis 3)**
- **Sons of God marry the daughters of man (Genesis 6)**
- **Moses and Pharaoh.** The ten plagues (Exodus 7-12)
- **God with Satan over Job**
- **Daniel's vision (Daniel 10)**
- **Horses and Chariots of Fire surround Elisha**
- **David's Census Brings Pestilence** (1 Chronicles 21:1)
- **Satan's fall:** Isaiah 14:12-20; Ezekiel 28:11-19

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### New Testament

- **The Whole Armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-20)**
- **Submit to God, resist the devil.** James 4:7
- **Take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ.** 2 Corinthians 10:2-5.
- **Angel tells Mary** about Jesus' birth.
- **Jesus is tempted by Satan** Luke 4:1-13.
- **God puts thoughts in Peter's head** to say that Jesus is the son of God. **Mark 8:29**

*He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered and said to Him, "You are the Christ." NKJV*

- **Peter listens to evil thought** and to tries to stop Jesus from going to the cross. **Mark 8:31-33** NKJV

*And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He spoke this word openly. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. <sup>33</sup> But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."*

- **The birth, life, cross (death) and the resurrection of Jesus Christ,**
- **Jesus casts out demons,** heals the sick, releasing captives from the strong man (Matt 12:22-29). In Matthew 8:28-34 (cf Mark 5:1-21),
- **Satan entered Judas** (Luke 22:3-6). And leads him to go and betray Jesus.
- **Paul and the pagan fortune-teller** (Acts 16:16–18).
- **Satan prevented Paul from going to Thessalonica.** (1 Thess 2:18).

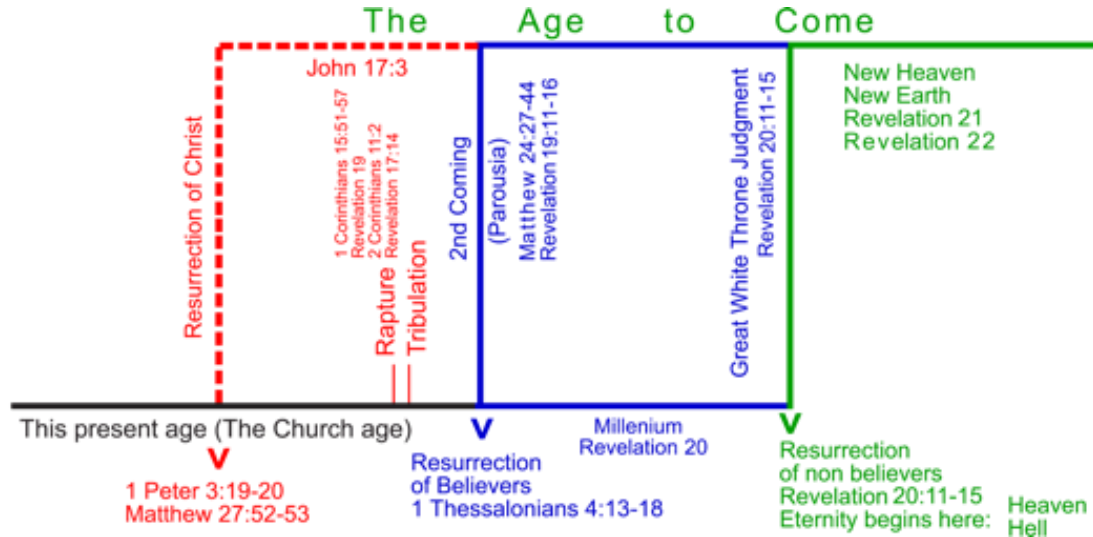
“When one turns to the New Testament, especially the ministry of Jesus, one finds cosmic conflict at every turn.”

Cook, W. F., III, & Lawless, C. (2019). [\*Spiritual warfare in the storyline of scripture\*](#) (pp. 43–80). B&H Academic.

TIMELINE –

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Adapted from "The Gospel Of The Kingdom", George Eldon Ladd

400 YEARS OF SILENCE  
THEN...JOHN THE BAPTIST  
**Pastor Robin in Week 6: The Ordinances**

**Whom did the religious encounter....JOHN. The prophesied prelude to Christ.**

CHARACTER OF JOHN'S PREACHING.

1. *Spoke Plainly about Sin.*
  - a. Taught absolute need of repentance.
  - b. Repentance must be proved by works.
  - c. Warned men not to rest on outward privileges.
2. *Spoke Plainly about the Lord Jesus.*
  - a. That He was mightier than he
  - b. He was only slave. Jesus was the King.
  - c. He baptised only with water, whereas the Lord would baptise with the Spirit.
3. *Spoke Plainly of Holy Spirit.*
  - a. Such a thing as baptism of Spirit.
  - b. Special offer of Lord Jesus to baptise thus in Spirit.
4. *Spoke Plainly about Awful Danger of Impenitent(unrepentant).*
  - a. Told them there was a wrath to come.
  - b. He preached of the unquenchable fire.
5. *Spoke Plainly about the Safety of Believers.*

Smith, J., & Lee, R. (1971). *Handfuls on Purpose for Christian Workers and Bible Students, Series I-XIII* (five-volume edition, Vol. 11, pp. 204–207). William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

### I. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

**Pastor Robin in Week 6: The Ordinances**

**What statement[s] does Water Baptism make about the spiritual battle?**

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### Water Baptism is a WITNESS

- that God is real,
- I have submitted to Him
- I have been embraced by the church-the family of God
- As a larger community, all humankind will have to reckon with Him one day.

### Mark 1:1-11

<sup>7</sup> And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. <sup>8</sup> I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

### John Baptizes Jesus

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

### Matthew 3:7-17

<sup>16</sup> When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and <sup>[b]</sup>He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. <sup>17</sup> And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

### Luke 3:21-22

<sup>21</sup> When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. <sup>22</sup> And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."

### WHY did Jesus seek baptism? (WHY did He allow it?)

Baptism is symbolic of the spiritual occurrence that happens at the time of salvation:

The Salvation Equation: (God is and God provides) {Grace > Atonement} (Man can now respond): + Repentance + Faith →( and God answers) Conversion + Regeneration + Justification + Adoption →Sanctification -
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- Immersion = Death to self/carnal nature died with JC
- Raised up = Resurrection of a new spiritual life
- Publicly states "I believe!"

Would THESE be the reasons WHY?

## BAPTISM WAS THE PRELUDE TO THE TEMPTATION OF CHRIST

Begs the question: WHY SHOULD I GET BAPTIZED?

## II. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEMPTATION OF CHRIST

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Redo of the Garden of Eden?

**Mark 1:12–13** Satan Tempts Jesus

<sup>12</sup> Immediately **the Spirit drove Him into** the wilderness. <sup>13</sup> And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and **the angels ministered to Him.**

**Matthew 4:1–11** Satan Tempts Jesus

**4** Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.

<sup>3</sup> Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”

<sup>4</sup> But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’ ”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> 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.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “It is written again, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God.’ ”

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup> And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.”

<sup>10</sup> 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.’ ”

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

**Luke 4:1–13** Satan Tempts Jesus

**4** Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.

<sup>3</sup> And the devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.”

<sup>4</sup> But Jesus answered him, saying, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’ ”

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<sup>5</sup> Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. <sup>7</sup> Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours."

<sup>8</sup> And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

<sup>9</sup> Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. <sup>10</sup> For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you,'

<sup>11</sup> and,

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

<sup>12</sup> And Jesus answered and said to him, "It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.' "

<sup>13</sup> Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

### **Is there a map of battle here? A battle plan?**

#### **James 1:2-8**

<sup>2</sup> My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, <sup>3</sup> knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. <sup>4</sup> But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. <sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. <sup>6</sup> But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; <sup>8</sup> he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Can I do this? Count it ALL joy?  
Being WITH Jesus in the Wilderness....

### **A. The Journey INTO the Wilderness:**

**[handout]**

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What do these verses say.

Any clarifying description of how the enemy works?

Any clarifying description of how Jesus works? Holy Spirit works?

Is there any info that teaches me what **I can expect** in my life of loving Christ?

[THERE PROBABLY WAS MORE THEN 3 TEMPTATIONS]

**Mark 1:12–13** Satan Tempts Jesus

*<sup>12</sup> Immediately **the Spirit drove Him into** the wilderness. <sup>13</sup> And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and **the angels ministered to Him.***

**MARK:**

- Only two verses!
- NO description of the Temptations.
- Only one who states presence of wild animals.  
Having authority over the animals reflecting the Garden of Eden?  
OR Wilderness emphasis?
- Mark indicates that Jesus was under attack throughout (“being tempted”) the forty days.
- Mark and Matthew both mention the presence of angels ministering to Jesus.
- Contrasts = wild animals posed a threat to Jesus v.s. the angelic messengers who cared for Him.

**MATTHEW & LUKE:**

- More detailed.
- **Mark & Matthew** connect Jesus’s baptism and temptation,
- **Luke** separates the two with Jesus’s genealogy.
  
- **Matthew** = Abraham ---> Jesus
- **Luke** = Jesus ---> Adam.
- **Luke** (directed to Gentiles) JESUS descendant of Abraham AND the Gentile, ADAM.
  
- **Luke:** Adam is identified as the “son of God.”  
Twice in Luke’s account the devil addresses Jesus as “Son of God.”
  
- **Luke:** COMPARE Temptation of Adam in Garden of Eden v.s. Jesus in the wilderness.  
**Adam** - tempted in the most idyllic setting  
humankind has ever known.

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**Adam** could eat from any tree in the garden he desired with the exception of one.

**Adam** had a companion who was created to be his mutual.

**Adam** sinned and plunged humankind toward eternal judgment, Jesus

**Jesus**, on the other hand, was tempted in a barren wilderness.

**Jesus** fasted for forty days.

**Jesus** was absolutely alone.

**Jesus** resisted and began to undo what Adam did.

### [Handout]

What do these verses say:

Any clarifying description of how the enemy works?

Any clarifying description of how Jesus works? Holy Spirit works?

Is there any info that teaches me what **I can expect** in my life of loving Christ?

#### • WHO INITIATED THIS BATTLE?

The three authors made it clear that Jesus was not caught off guard by a surprise attack of the devil but that God led him into the wilderness for the purpose of encountering Satan. **God—not the devil—was the initiator in this battle.**

Cook, W. F., III, & Lawless, C. (2019). [Spiritual warfare in the storyline of scripture](#) (pp. 43–80). B&H Academic.

The Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness “to be tempted by the devil” (*diabolos*). The verb “tempted” (*peirazō*) can mean either “to tempt” or “to test.” This is equally true for the noun *peirasmos*, which can mean either “temptation” or “test.”

#### TEMPTATION v.s. TEST:

**A temptation** is an attempt to entice someone to act contrary to God’s will.

**A test** seeks to get an individual to prove oneself as obedient and faithful to God, with the objective that the person passes the test. Only context can determine which thought is intended.

In this context it is clear that a temptation is envisioned. [Michael Wilkins]

Cook, W. F., III, & Lawless, C. (2019). [Spiritual warfare in the storyline of scripture](#) (pp. 43–80). B&H Academic.

**Is there a map of battle here? A battle plan? [What do I see?]**

### Matthew 4:3-4

<sup>3</sup> Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”



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*<sup>4</sup> But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "*

**[What do I see?]**

What do these verses say:

Any clarifying description of how the enemy works?

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**TEMPTATION #1: Self Reliance** (1<sup>st</sup> step to self-aggrandizement?)

- GET Jesus to satisfy his hunger by **acting independently from His heavenly Father**
- NOT doubt His Sonship but use it for Himself. "I deserve....."  
[Baptism: My Beloved Son Lk3:21-22]
- "God WANTS you to be strong and independent and to this yourself."

**JESUS' RESPONSE:** Jesus's response was swift and direct: "Man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matt 4:4, citing Deut 8:3).

Does not answer nor argue with evil.

- Responded with whose words? GOD'S WORD.

**WILDERNESS LESSONS from #1: Battle Plan**

- Use God's Word as the weapon it is.  
Practical means of making this an everyday thing:
  - Read it.
  - Memorize it.
  - Share it.
  - Art it.
- SEE my Ego for what it is.
- PRACTICE dependence on God (tithe, pray for others, ....)
- See physical needs above everything else including spiritual obedience:

a. The temptation to place body and its needs first (Devil's order is "Bread, trust, worship."  
God, "Trust, worship, bread"), then soul.

b. To satisfy a legitimate craving of the body in an illegitimate way.

Smith, J., & Lee, R. (1971). *Handfuls on Purpose for Christian Workers and Bible Students, Series I–XIII* (five-volume edition, Vol. 11, pp. 204–207). William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

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“Temptation at times may be a satanic trap to get a person to satiate a God-given drive (hunger) in a God-forbidden way.” Cook, W. F., III, & Lawless, C. (2019). *Spiritual warfare in the storyline of scripture* (pp. 43–80). B&H Academic.

**TEMPTATION #2: Self Promotion** (2<sup>nd</sup> step to self-aggrandizement?)

**Matthew 4:5-7**

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> 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.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “It is written again, ‘You shall not <sup>[a]</sup>tempt the Lord your God.’ ”

**[What do I see?]**

What do these verses say:

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Is there any info that teaches me what **I can expect** in my life of loving Christ?

Self.

Self promotion.

Sensationalism.

God loves you...**prove it.**

**WILDERNESS LESSONS from #2: Battle Plan**

- BEWARE OF: The Prove it Syndrome

Prove it =

I am sinless (or close).

Bad things happen to you because you have sin in your life.

\$\$\$ = God’s Blessing of my fine self.

Hardship = sin.

- Accepting God’s Timing
- Accepting God’s Will
- This is not Heaven
- Testing God is never a good idea.
  
- The enemy will use familiar tools. (Scripture) But with ungodly application.

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“The devil quoted **Ps 91:11–12**. The problem is that he ripped it from its contextual meaning. **This is the only time in the Bible that Satan is described as quoting Scripture.**”

Cook, W. F., III, & Lawless, C. (2019). [\*Spiritual warfare in the storyline of scripture\*](#) (pp. 43–80). B&H Academic.

1. This temptation comes to us when he tries to show us we must show our trust by doing something extraordinary.

2. No; we must show our trust by doing the ordinary things of life in an extraordinary way.

Smith, J., & Lee, R. (1971). [\*Handfuls on Purpose for Christian Workers and Bible Students, Series I–XIII\*](#) (five-volume edition, Vol. 11, pp. 204–207). William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

### TEMPTATION #3: Self Aggrandizement

#### Matthew 4:8-10

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup> And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.”

<sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, <sup>10a</sup> “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’ ”

[What do I see?]

What do these verses say:

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COMPROMISE – The lie that I am in control.

### WILDERNESS LESSONS from #3: Battle Plan

- Do not underestimate the pull of my physical nature.
- Beware of the lure of immediate gratification.
- Humankind has an innate sinful nature that is attracted to sin.
- There is NOT Heaven.
- There is no short cut to spiritual maturity and respect and leadership.
- HONOR. No one can give it to us. It is done in everyday relationship with Him.
- Good and Evil do not exist together (Yin/Yang). They are DISPARATE (dis. per. et.)

1. essentially different in kind; not allowing comparison.

**Similar:** unlike; poles apart; distinctly different

**Divergent:**

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: moving or extending in different directions from a common point : diverging from each other. divergent paths. see also divergent evolution. b. : differing from each other or from a standard.

**Contrastive:** Showing the difference between things when you contrast them.

*noun*

**ARCHAIC**

1. things so unlike that there is no basis for comparison.

**“Jesus joined together what people often separate—worship and service. People will serve whatever or whomever they worship.” [!!!!!!]**

Cook, W. F., III, & Lawless, C. (2019). *Spiritual warfare in the storyline of scripture* (pp. 43–80). B&H Academic.

**There is no “using” things of evil. It is always a worshipping of evil.**

**Matthew 4:11**

<sup>11</sup> *Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.*

**Living with temptation:**

- It occurs inside...alone, in my person.
- It is familiar/humanizing. ALL humans experience it whether they realize it or not.
- It defines what LIVING AS A CHRISTIAN encompasses/embodies. Takes the FAKE away. ALL people can relate to the Temptation (whether we admit it or not).
- Comforting to note that Jesus lived what we are asked to. [Suffering. Betrayal. Cravings. Etc]
- Jesus endured. He did NOT sin.
  - Did not accept responsibility for the temptation.
  - Accepted responsibility for IMMEDIATELY identifying it.
  - Through the temptation BACK to the enemy.
  - Did not accept in nor own it as His. (SIN v.s. TEMPTATION)

**Jesus did not use supernatural powers to defeat the devil in the wilderness but God’s holy Word—understood, believed, and obeyed.**

This same Word is available to every believer in the battle against the spiritual forces of darkness.

Cook, W. F., III, & Lawless, C. (2019). *Spiritual warfare in the storyline of scripture* (pp. 43–80). B&H Academic.

Being WITH Jesus in the Wilderness? He is our **representative**.

**Handout – Three Temptations**

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**Mark 1:1-11**

*The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. <sup>2</sup> As it is written in the Prophets:*

*"Behold, I send My messenger before Your face,  
Who will prepare Your way before You."*

<sup>3</sup> *"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:*

*'Prepare the way of the Lord;  
Make His paths straight.' "*

<sup>4</sup> *John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance <sup>[b]</sup>for the remission of sins. <sup>5</sup> Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.*

<sup>6</sup> *Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. <sup>8</sup> I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."*

**John Baptizes Jesus**

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

**Matthew 3:7-17**

<sup>7</sup> *But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup> Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, <sup>9</sup> and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. <sup>10</sup> And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup> 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 <sup>[a]</sup>and fire. <sup>12</sup> 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."*

**John Baptizes Jesus**

<sup>13</sup> *Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"*

<sup>15</sup> *But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.*

<sup>16</sup> *When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and <sup>[b]</sup>He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting*

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upon Him. <sup>17</sup> And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

**Luke 3:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. <sup>22</sup> And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."