

"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil."

— Matt. 4:1

WHY DID THE LORD CHRIST WISH TO BE TEMPTED?

INTRO

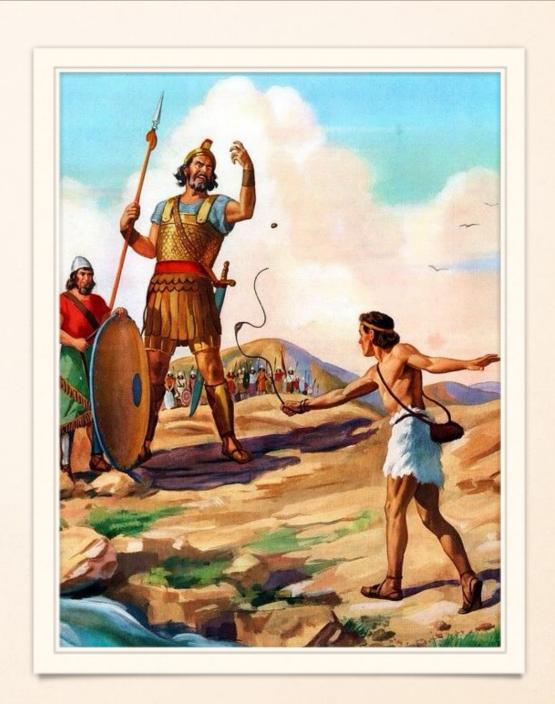
- Mk. 1:12 "Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to Him."
- Matt. 4:1 "Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil."
- Why did the Lord Christ wish to be tempted?

PROVIDE US WITH A WARNING

- No one is safe or free from temptation
- 2 Cor. 11:3 "But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ."
- Sir. 2:1 "My son, if you draw near to serve the Lord, Prepare your soul for temptation."

THAT HE MIGHT FIGHT ON OUR BEHALF

- The Lord Christ came and put on our flesh
- David and Goliath



FILL US WITH CONFIDENCE IN HIS MERCY

- Heb. 4:15 "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin."
- 1 Cor. 10:13 "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.
- "What God gives us is not the certainty that we shall bear it but the possibility that we may be made able to bear it." (Origen)

CONCLUSION

- Why did the Lord Christ wish to be tempted?
 - 1. Provide us with a warning
 - To give us an example of how to overcome temptation
 - 3. That He might fight on our behalf
 - 4. Fill us with confidence in His mercy