Sunday, January 23, 2022 Mark Moser

Evil vs. Jesus

Luke 4:1-13

Correcting a *limited* view of evil:

- Last week: It's in all of us, not just some really bad people we want to blame for everything.

- This week: And it's not just in us. We need to talk about the devil.

The Devil. Satan. He typically *hides.*

Quick questions:

Who sent Jesus into the wilderness? _____ (Luke 4:1)

For how long? _____ (Luke 4:2)

When the devil comes, Jesus is in a weakened state because _____. (Luke 4:2)

Temptation #1: "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." (Luke 4:3)

- "If you are the Son of God…" Remember what the Father said during the baptism?

- Jesus' response comes from Deut 8:3: "Man does not live by bread alone."
    - The importance of the Word of God!

Temptation #2: "I will give you all this authority and glory… if you worship me." (Luke 4:5-7)

- Jesus' response comes from Deut 6:13: 'Worship God *only*.'

Temptation #3: "Throw yourself down [from the temple]…" For the Psalms say the angels will save you!

- "The devil will cite Scripture for his own purpose." -*The Merchant of Venice*

- Jesus' response comes from Deut 6:16: "Do not put the Lord to the test." (Luke 4:12)

A deep vs. shallow view of evil

The importance of the Word of God

<u>Questions for Reflection and Application:</u>

1. What is the importance of the Spirit in Luke 4:1? What can we learn from this?
2. Jesus quotes Deuteronomy to the devil.
    a. Could you respond to temptation with Scripture you know? (If Jesus used Scripture, how much more should we!)
    b. Is it time to pursue Scripture study plan and/or memorization? Why or why not? Pray about this.
3. What does this passage teach us about the essence of evil? Most people today think of evil in terms of sensuality or hurting others. How does this go deeper, and how does this help you?