

He Suffered Being Tempted

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"For indeed He (Jesus) did not give aid to angels; but He gives aid to the seed (descendants) of Abraham. Therefore, in all things He had to be made like unto His brethren (us human beings), so that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that **He Himself has suffered being tempted**, He is able to aid those who are tempted." (Hebrews 2:16-18)

"Seeing then that we have a Great High Priest, who has passed into the heavens, **Jesus the Son of God**, let us hold fast our profession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses; **but, was in every-way tempted in the same ways (as we are), yet without sin!** Let us therefore come boldly unto the Throne of Grace, **so that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.**" (Hebrews 4:14-16)

Suffered: from the Greek word *peponthen* which means: has-suffered; from *pascho*: to suffer, to be acted on; acted upon in a certain way, either good or bad; to experience ill treatment, to suffer. properly, to feel heavy emotion, especially suffering; affected, experiencing feeling (literally "sensible" = "sensed-experience"); "the feeling of the mind, emotion, passion" (J. Thayer). Relates to any part of us that feels strong emotion, passion, or suffering – especially "the capacity to feel suffering" (J. Thayer)

Tempted: in Heb. 2:18 from the Greek word *peirastheis* which means: having-been-tempted, or being tempted; from *peirazo*: to make proof of, to attempt, to test, to tempt. (from *peíra*, "a test, a trial, a temptation"). (in Heb 4:15 '*pepeirasmēnon*' with the same meaning.)

the contextual use of the word 'suffered' implies negative situations in which ill treatment, from adversarial sources, is being endured. Therefore, the context implies 'temptations' to commit sin; or testings with the goals of entrapment.

The words 'in every-way' means **all** the various ways, means, or methods, by which temptations may come upon us; and not necessarily every single object, or situation, (of which there are many thousands), that may be a temptation to us, or to Jesus. First, consider the temptation of Jesus, by the devil, in the wilderness:

"And Jesus being full of the Holy Spirit returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, **being forty days tempted of the devil** (called the tempter in Matthew 4:3). And in those days He did not eat anything; and when they were ended, He afterwards became hungry. And the devil said unto Him, 'If You are the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.' And Jesus answered him, saying, 'It is written, *That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.*' (Deut. 8:3) And the devil, took Him up onto a high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, 'All this power will I give to You, and the glory of them; for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. If You therefore will worship me, all shall be Yours.' but Jesus answered and said unto him, Get you behind Me, Satan; for it is written, *You shalt worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve.*' (Deut. 6:13) And he (the devil) brought Him (Jesus) to Jerusalem, and set Him on a pinnacle of the Temple, and said unto Him, 'If You are the Son of God, cast Yourself down from here; for it is written, *He shall give His (God's) angels charge over You, to keep You (safe); and in their hands they shall bear You up, lest at any time You dash Your foot against a stone.*' (Ps. 91:11-12) And Jesus answering said unto him, 'It is said, *You shall not tempt the Lord your God.*' (Deut. 6:18) And when the devil had ended all the temptations, he departed from Him for an opportune time." (Luke 4:1-13)

These three temptations of Jesus are similar to the kinds of temptations that we ourselves may be tempted with. They appeal to our lusts and sinful desires. They encompass disobedience, and rebellion against God. They often involve idolatry (obedience and worship of satan). They appeal to our sinful pride of life nature.

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Jesus suffered from these types of temptations, and yet without sin - by not giving in to them or allowing lusts to be conceived within Himself. Jesus overcame all temptations because His true love for the Father, and His intimate relationship in the Father, enabled Him to overcome the influence of the tempter and his temptations. Consider the following:

“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust within it: **but he who does the will of God abides forever.**” (1John 2:15-17)

“Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God; for God cannot be tempted with evil, and He does not tempt any man. But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away, and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has been conceived, it brings forth sin: and sin, when it is accomplished, it brings forth death.” (James 1:13-15)

Just as Jesus overcame sinful temptations, so can we!

Jesus also suffered from testings which His human adversaries used against Him with the goal to entrap Jesus in some doctrinal error. Consider the following situations:

Read Matthew 22:34-40 – when a lawyer tested Jesus concerning what the greatest Commandment was.

Read Matthew 22:15-20 – when the Pharisees & Herodians tried to entrap Jesus concerning paying tribute to the Roman emperor.

Read Matthew 19:1-9 – when the Pharisees tested Jesus concerning divorce.

Read Matthew 16:1-4 – when the Pharisees and Sadducees tempted Jesus by asking Jesus to show them a sign from heaven.

Jesus suffered temptations, and yet never gave in to them, and thus He has remained eternally sinless. However, we have all given in to many sinful temptations. Since Jesus did suffer temptations He is able to relate to our inward struggles as we deal with temptations; and Jesus is through His Spirit who dwells in us, able to aid and guide us away from those temptations. But also, mercifully, because Jesus is sinless, He is able to 'make reconciliation for the sins of the people' who do give in to temptation. It is as it says:

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1John 1:9)

Jesus did Suffer Being Tempted

**Jesus was tempted in every-way, even in the same ways as we are - yet without sin !!
Because of this Jesus is able to aid all of us who also suffer being tempted !!**

**And remember God cannot be tempted, and He does not tempt anyone!
All temptations target our lusts, and our pride of life sinful nature.!**

**Thank You Jesus that you do relate to our own weaknesses!
Thank You Jesus that You have reconciled us back to the Father through the Cross!!**

All Praise, Honor, Glory, and Power are Yours Lord Jesus – Forever and Ever – Amen!