

# LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION

(Luke 22:39-46)

## I. “DON’T LET US FAIL IN THE TEST”

- A. The modern English usage of the word “temptation” is seduction to sin. Biblical usage is the idea of putting someone on trial, putting someone to the test. (New Bible Dictionary, InterVarsity Press © 1996; c.f. T.D.N.T.)
- B. “Temptation” and “testing” translate the same word in the Bible. The word is the same, but the motivation and goal are different. God tests us to give us an opportunity to be promoted. The tempter tests us to give us an opportunity to fail. The motive is completely different.
- C. God doesn’t tempt us.
  - 1. **Temptation** is being enticed or allured to sin.
  - 2. **Testing** is being given an opportunity to be elevated to a higher level. God test you to call forth the treasures that are in you, to promote you.
  - 3. It is essential that we understand this principal or we will be miserable in our relationship with God. When things are going well, you will be happy. When things are not going well, you will be sad. You might be embarrassed, frustrated, bored.
- D. We’re not praying to not be tested. We’re praying not to fail the test. (Luke 22:39-46)
- E. God allows tests to come into our lives. It’s a part of our lives. God is the One who leads us into the wilderness. Jesus was tested. (Luke 4:1-2)

## II. THE WILDERNESS: THE TRAINING GROUND OF THE HEART

- A. The wilderness is the place where God sends all His choice servants to prepare them. It’s the place of forging of the inner life in God. It’s the place where John the Baptist lived before he began his ministry, Moses, Elijah, David, all spent time in the wilderness before they possessed God’s promise for their lives. It’s where Jesus was led by the Spirit before He began His ministry.

***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.***

- 1. God only allows in your life what you are able to handle.
- 2. In that, He also gives you a way to stand up under it, bear it.

- B. God leads you to the wilderness to protect you. (Exo. 13:17-18; Exo. 23:29-30)
- C. God leads you to the wilderness in order to promote you. The wilderness is the place of testing unto promotion. (Luke 4:13-14; James 4:7; Deut. 8:15-16)
- D. Q: What is the purpose of the wilderness? It's the place where you start to learn to: Be nourished by God's Word. (Deut. 8:3), Live in a spirit of worship (Luke 4:8), 1 John 2:15-16)  
***Who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end (Deut. 8:16)***

***"So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD. (Deut. 8:3)***

### III. LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION

- Q: What are we praying when we ask: Do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one?
- A. #1 Don't let me fail in the test. Lead me God. Deliver me from evil and the evil one.
  - B. #2 I trust in Your leadership in my life. Lead me. I surrender to Your will. I will commit to obey. (Luke 22:42)
  - C. #3 Strength and protection (Luke 22:43; Eph. 3:16-21)