



Lewiston Church of Christ

August 29, 2021



The Real Enemy

Weekly Services

Sun. Bible Study 9:45 AM

Sun. Worship 10:45 AM

Sun. Day/Evening Groups

Wed Bible Study 6:30 PM

MINISTER

Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

ELDERS

Joe Bieren: 208-305-1136

Jerry Bolm: 208-360-9186

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

DEACONS

Education – Rick Richardson

Finance – Tom Hill

Outreach – Mark Whittaker

AREAS OF SERVICE

Building – Ken Vogtman

Custodian – Ron & Cindy Roberson

Fellowship – Joe & Carrie Bieren

Grounds – Cody & Doyle Dawes

Music Ministry – Ron Roberson

Secretary – Renee Hill

Technology – Eric Kjorness

Technology – Cody Dawes

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After Jesus was baptized, the Spirit led him into a wilderness. There, He encountered the devil who offered Jesus some keen ideas for a more successful and fulfilling life.

First, the devil suggested that Jesus solve His hunger by turning stones into bread. Jesus understood the implication--feed people (beginning with yourself) and they will be puddy in your paws! They will run after you like obedient sheep depending on you for whatever you give them. Buy their love with bread and their love will last as long as their stomachs are full. After all, every man has his price.

But Jesus was not sent to be a 'get-your-belly-filled' leader. Instead, He was a 'die-to-yourself' leader,, and that's a much tougher sell.

But the devil kept trying. He intimated, "Imagine the crowds you would attract, Jesus, by leaping off of the temple pinnacle only to be rescued by angels! This would prove how great your faith is, Jesus. Your special status would be heralded far and wide."

Rejected again, the devil turned to politics: "Think of the good you could do, Jesus, if you claimed an earthly throne and ruled as the greatest problem-solver of all time! Solve hunger! Crime! Sickness! Poverty! Boredom! Make clear rules to follow and people will love you for relieving them of the risky responsibilities that come with freedom. Who better than You to bring universal unity to mankind? Instead of a crown of thorns, wear a brilliant bejeweled crown of power and glory! Believe me, Jesus, these people would love a political savior far more than a spiritual one."

Okay, I am putting words into the devil's mouth. Read Matthew 4 and surmise for yourself how close these quotes connect with Satan's intentions. But I believe the devil was trying to get Jesus to refocus. Bend your focus toward satisfying people with bread, impressive miracles, and practical power here and now! He was saying, "Stand up to the real enemies of humanity—hunger, disease, repression, humiliation, and poverty!"

"No, Satan!" Jesus essentially retorted, "Sin is the real enemy of humanity. I came to take that enemy on to the death—AND beyond!"