

Serve Only the Lord for Success

Jesus had a big dream. He wanted to build the Kingdom of God. After baptism, Jesus went to pray in the wilderness. There he was tempted by the devil. Although we have never seen a devil with two horns and a red face, similar temptations could come to us.

The first temptation is to turn stones to bread. The devil tempted Jesus when he was extremely hungry. When a man is hungry, he would do anything to satisfy his needs. If we put our needs over God's purpose on our lives, we will be easily tempted.

The second temptation is for Jesus to jump down from the pinnacle of the temple and let the angels save him from harm. When we grow stronger in faith, we may think we are invincible. We expect God to protect us while we should be more attentive to our own safety.

The third temptation is to gain power over the kingdoms of the world. We press hard to be the boss. We dream to be the top dog. We want to tell people what to do. Power is like wine. It tastes good at the first glass, but we will be drunk when we drink too much. I have written a paper on Napoleon. He is a good example of intoxication on power. I entitled my paper: "One who knows no limit limits oneself."

Jesus did not fall for any of the temptations. He said to the devil, "One does not live on bread alone but on the words of God." "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." "Worship the Lord your God and serve only him." (Matt 4:10) To actualize our big dream, we need to overcome our temptations and serve only the Lord.

Let us pray: Almighty God, as we offer ourselves to fulfill your purpose on us, lead us not into temptation. Help us focus on your ministry and remind us to serve only you – our Lord and Savior. Amen.

事奉上帝，實現大計

耶穌在世的理想是建立天國，祂受洗後跑到曠野禁食禱告，魔鬼便來試探祂，我們雖從未見過紅面生角的魔鬼，卻常面對耶穌所受的試探。

第一個試探是將石頭變餅，魔鬼在耶穌極度飢餓時引誘祂，當人飢餓的時候，就會違背良心，去滿足自己的需要。若我們把自己的需要看得比神的旨意更重時，我們就被魔鬼控了。

第二個試探是叫耶穌從殿頂跳下而不受損傷，當我們的信心增長時，靠神的心也增長，但千萬不可以為從此便刀槍不入，我們求神保佑，也得小心自重，才能永保安康。

第三個試探是掌管全世界，我們都喜歡當上司，做當權派。權力就如紅酒，小飲有益，多喝傷身。

我曾寫文章論拿破崙，題目就是：“不自限者，人必限之。”他的一生，就是被權力所迷惑了。

耶穌並沒有掉下魔鬼的網羅。祂說：“人活着，不是單靠食物，乃是靠神口裏所出的一切話。”“不可試探主你的神。敬拜上帝，單要事奉祂。”(馬太4:10)我們也應謹記：實現大計，事奉上帝。

請禱告：全能的主啊，當我們把自己獻上，為祢的天國而努力時，求祢不叫我們遇見試探，幫助我們專心事奉，全心全力為主盡忠，阿們。