



“He Suffered Temptation by Satan”

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 91:15-16, 1-2, 9-10, 13

He shall call upon Me, and I will | answer him;*
 I will deliver him and | honor him.
 With long life I will sat- | isfy him,*
 and show him My sal- | vation.”
 He who dwells in the secret place of the | Most High*
 shall abide under the shadow of the Al- | mighty.
 I will say | of the Lord,*
 “He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him | I will trust.”
 Because you have made the Lord, who is my | refuge,*
 even the Most High, your | dwelling place,
 No evil shall be- | fall you,*
 nor shall any plague come near your | dwelling.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 16:9-10

“Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let Your holy one see corruption.”

7 READ THE SCRIPTURE AND DEVOTION (OTHER SIDE OF THE PAGE)

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayer and stretch forth the right hand of Your majesty to defend us from those who rise up against us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
God the Father, Be Our Stay

TLH 247, LSB 505
 Martin Luther



(verse 1) God the Father, be our Stay,
 (v2) Jesus Christ, be Thou our Stay,
 (v3) Holy Ghost, be Thou our Stay,
 Oh, let us perish never.
 Cleanse us from our sins, we pray,
 And grant us life forever.
 Keep us from the Evil One;
 Uphold our faith most holy,

Grant us to trust Thee solely
 With humble hearts and lowly.
 Let us put God's armor on:
 With all true Christians running
 Our heavenly race and shunning
 The devil's wiles and cunning.
 Amen, Amen, this be done,
 So sing we, Hallelujah!

1 BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:
 In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

2 SAY THE APOSTLES' CREED
 I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth.
 And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our
 Lord, who was conceived by the Holy
 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
 under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died
 and was buried. He descended into hell.
 The third day He rose again from the
 dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at
 the right hand of God, the Father
 Almighty. From thence He will come to
 judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
 Christian church, the communion of
 saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
 resurrection of the body, and the life
 everlasting. Amen.

3 PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER
 Our Father, who art in
 heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth as it
 is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily
 bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those who
 trespass against us;
 and lead us not into
 temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom and
 the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.

4 PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

Morning. I thank You, my
 heavenly Father, through Jesus
 Christ, Your dear Son, that You
 have kept me this night from all
 harm and danger; and I pray that
 You would keep me this day also
 from sin and every evil, that all my
 doings and life may please You.
 For into Your hands I commend
 myself, my body and soul, and all
 things. Let Your holy angel be with
 me, that the evil foe may have no
 power over me. Amen.

Evening. I thank you, my
 heavenly Father, through Jesus
 Christ, Your dear Son, that You
 have graciously kept me this day;
 and I pray that You would forgive
 me all my sins where I have done
 wrong, and graciously keep me this
 night. For into Your hands, I
 commend myself, my body and
 soul, and all things. Let Your holy
 angel be with me, that the evil foe
 may have no power over me. Amen.

THEME OF THE WEEK: He Suffered Temptation by Satan

Temptation drives you to God. That is an odd thing to say, but it is the truth. Our Lord has a funny way about Him. He can, and does, work in all things for our good; even temptation. Although God tempts no one, He rides our temptation like a stubborn horse and drives us toward Himself in prayer. We cry out to be freed from temptation and to be forgiven of our sins when we fall. These prayers do not fall on deaf ears. Our Lord answers our prayer in His Word of Promise, the Gospel. It is there that we receive the cross and everything that Christ has won for us.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 4:1-11—Don't Go to the Cross

Whatever the form of the temptation might have been, the purpose was to keep Jesus from accomplishing the purpose of His incarnation. "If you are the Son of God, deny your humanity and make bread. You don't need to suffer." "If you are the Son of God, nothing evil will ever happen to you. You cannot die. Throw yourself off the Temple and see that you will be protected." "Why head to the cross to win the world, just bow down to me and I will give it all to you without any pain or suffering or death or the wrath of God." But Jesus would not be deterred. He came into our flesh to become one of us and take upon Himself the sins of the world. Those sins would be paid for by His sacrificial death. Nothing less than that would do. He would make His way to the cross and die for you. Not even Satan could keep Him from that. *Jesus, deliver me from temptation. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 32—A Conversation With God

David has a back-and-forth conversation with God. "You are blessed when your sin is forgiven," God says. Don't pretend that you can go it alone. David acknowledges that this sinful body of ours feels the weight of God's Law heavy upon us. So David lays his sins bare. No use trying to hide the secret iniquities from the One who sees the things done in secret. Confession and absolution are the ways of our Lord: A gift given and a gift received. The godly call out in prayer with the sure certainty that they will be heard. In the time of trouble, when sin is great and death is deadly, the Lord will save. And through it all, until the day of your last breath, your God will instruct you in His good and righteous ways. Whether it be sorrow or joy that covers you today, shout for joy in your salvation. *Gracious God, may Your steadfast love surround me as I trust in You. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10—The Time Is Now

Paul had not quite been through hell and back, but close. Afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, and more had followed his apostolic journey and it had all been for one reason: So that you might know the grace of God. His deep desire is that the certain hope that you have received through the proclamation of the Gospel might not be received in vain. Do not fret about when God's salvation will come to you, as if it is way off in the future and you have to suffer through life's torments to achieve it. God's salvation is yours right now; won on the cross years ago, given to you today in Word and Sacrament. There is no obstacle placed in your way that you must maneuver around to receive the gifts of the cross. God brings them to you in time and space that you might know for certain that you are forgiven in Christ. *Lord, may I know that now is the day of my salvation. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 3:1-24—The Fall and the Gospel

It seems as if Satan had won the day. Adam and Eve took and ate of the tree. The knowledge of evil was something to forever be outside of us. For the created to know evil he must know sin, and we were never supposed to know death. With sin devoured and death well on its way, our first parents were sure that God would come with thunder and lightning to smite and to smote. But He doesn't. Well, He does for Satan, but not for them and certainly not for you. The first Gospel message is proclaimed in verse 15 where the offspring of Eve, God in the flesh in the person of Jesus, would have His heel nipped by the devil in death. But in that death that very same heel would crush the great serpent as Jesus nailed the head of Satan through His feet and into the cross. *Father, grant to me the Gospel of Your Son's crushing heel. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 22:24-32—Who is the Greatest

The world would have us judge greatness based upon our place at the table. The sinner loves this because we can easily see who is better and who is worst based upon who sits where. But Jesus turns everything on its head, like He always does. It is clear that He is the greatest, deserving to be worshipped and adored, honored and served by all of creation. Except you won't find Him seated at the table. He's in the room, but He is the one scurrying around in the background making sure that you have a heaping plate full of seconds and thirds, assuring that your cup will be filled to the brim before you can ever get the chance to drain it dry. If you want to argue about who is the greatest, then look upon the One who serves you the most. Jesus is the greatest of all and He will never stop serving His salvation to you. *Greatest Jesus, serve me today and always. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: James 1:2-15—Another Teaching On Its Head

One would think that if we have the victory in Jesus then we would see and experience it in full in our daily lives. That isn't so much the case. Suffering always precedes glory. The cross comes before the resurrection. When trials and tribulations come, consider it a joy. Not despairing against insurmountable evil, but that as a Christian redeemed by Christ, take heart. Such is the cross that is placed upon your back as a forgiven sinner. Therefore, know that when trials come, your Lord will bring you to perfection through them. He will guard you, forgive you, lead you, and uplift you when you cannot lift your own head because of shame. This is the wisdom of God: knowing that the victory is ours already in Christ. *Jesus, grant us Your wisdom. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 16—You Will Not Abandon My Soul

O God, You are my only source of good. May I find refuge in You, today and always. Although my sinful flesh continually desires to run after other gods, You are my chosen portion, for You have chosen me. My delight is in You and in all those that You have freed from sin and made to be saints, for we all are promised a beautiful inheritance that is ours, even now. Do not allow me to be shaken by my sinful flesh or the temptations of the demons. Grant me Your council, instruct me in Your ways, stand before me always so that You might be my delight. For in You my heart is glad and the entirety of who I am rejoices. Even this fallen flesh of mine is comforted, for you will not let me taste death. For before me is the path of life, namely Jesus Christ, my Savior and through His cross, He has granted unto me the joys of Your right hand forevermore. Amen.

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