

Just as He went through much more after this experience there near the very beginning of His ministry.

We read in Heb. 2:18, Because He himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted. And Heb.4:15, For we do not have a high priest who is not able to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way just as we are yet was without sin."

How are we tempted in ways similar to the temptation of Christ? He was an example for us as well as our Saviour. If we are to live the Christian life as we should we need to avail ourselves of the power that comes from His sacrifice, but we also need to learn the lessons from His life in order that we may follow in His steps.

I believe it's important as we consider the problems that are going to face each of us in our lives,--I should say the problems that are doubtless facing each of you now-- it is important we consider some of the ways in which Jesus was tempted and see their application to us that we may follow in His steps.

I believe it's helpful in that connection to note a passage in 1 John that I believe summarizes it. 1 Jn.2:15, "Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world--the cravings of sinful man, the lust of the eyes and his pride on possessions--comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever."(NIV)

I believe the NIV is a very excellent translation and makes much clearer things we pass over in the KJV without really getting its force. But it is a human production as any translation is and there are points at which I do not believe it has quite gotten the thought of the original. I believe in this particular case we get definite help by comparing the KJV of these verses. So I wish to read these to you in the KJV.(Reading text in KJV)--- As you notice v. 15 is almost identical. However the next verse differs greatly(v.16, KJV reading text).

Someone who reads this verse may simply pass it over without paying much attention to it. See how often that word lust occurs. He says, I rarely have any trouble with lust. It is not a thing that is a great problem to me. It is only occasionally, and I have no great difficulty except perhaps on rare occasions with this problem. But there the Old English misleads you. Because the word lust in the time of King James meant almost exactly the same as the word desire means today. In the 300 or more years since, the word lust has become cast aside into only a portion of its original meaning and we generally take it as meaning an evil desire. It is even further shortened to mean one particular evil desire. That is not what the word meant in the days of King James, and that is not what the Greek word means because the Greek word is the very word that Paul used when he said, I desire to come to you. I desire to bring you the Gospel. There are cases in KJV where it's translated desire instead of lust. But I think we should remember when we find