

“ THE LION OF
 THE TRIBE OF
 JUDAH ... HAS
 PREVAILED ”
 (Revelation 5:5)



Away with you Satan!...

Temptation

After Jesus was baptized, he was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, there the devil started his attack against Him. His attack consisted of three temptations the essence of which is addressed to the soul. These temptations were:

1- Turning Stones into Bread

Knowing that Jesus was weary and hungry after His long 40 days fast, the devil took the chance and suggested to Jesus to turn the desert stones into bread and satisfy His hunger. The devil's proposal seemed good and reasonable, yet Jesus rejected it...Why? Because material things can only satisfy physical hunger, but what about spiritual hunger?

A man may have all his material needs satisfied and still have an incompleteness in his life.... The reason is that such a man suffers from spiritual hunger, a hunger of the soul which is not in material things to satisfy, God's word only can satisfy the hunger of the soul He created. And that was what Jesus meant when he said to the devil, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God'" (Mat. 4:4)

2- Jumping Down from the Temple's Pinnacle.

Jesus has just started His ministry, the devil suggested to Jesus that it would be helpful for Him if He could jump down from the temple's pinnacle and land unharmed in the temple's court. In doing so, men would be amazed into following a man who could do a thing like that.

No doubt Jesus wanted to win men, not by astonishing signs and wonders, but by conquering their hearts with his unconquerable love. God the Father sent His Son not to startle His people by His supernatural powers, but to ransom them by His own blood through dying on the cross. So there is no

Jesus: " was in all points tempted as we are yet, without sin." (Heb.4:15)

good for Jesus in needlessly putting Himself into such a threatening situation and expecting God to rescue Him from it. For that, Jesus rejected this temptation and said to the devil "It is written again, ' You shall not tempt the Lord your God.' " (Mat. 4:7)

3- Worshipping the Devil

Jesus came to save the world and to deliver it from the devil's bondage. But the devil, through man's sin, had become the prince of this world, and from this prospect he came to Jesus and said, "This world is mine, and to whom I will, I give it.. Do you want it?.....Is that what you have come for? to redeem it by dying?.....You need not to do that, fall down before me and it is yours!"

It is quite obvious that the devil tried to deflect Jesus from the way of the cross, by proposing to him an easier way to escape the shameful death of the cross. But that was the work which His Father has given Him to accomplish, and falling down and worshipping the devil means to obey him and to do his will. This could never happen, for Jesus came to the world, not even to do His own will, " but the will of the Father who sent Him"(John 6:36)

So Jesus resisted this temptation and rebuked the devil saying " Away with you Satan! for " It is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve ... The devil left Him and behold, angels came and ministered Him.'" (Math 4:11,12)

Is Temptation Sin?

Temptation isn't sin, because if it were sin, the story of the Lord's temptation could never have happened, for the Lord Jesus did no sin: yet, He was tempted.

Abouna Said To Me:

“ Son, temptation is when you are asked to do wrong, while sin is when you have done it. It is not wrong to be tempted, it is only wrong when you give way.
 So yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin .”



"THANKS BE TO GOD who gave us the VICTORY through our LORD JESUS CHRIST." (1 Corinthians 15 :57)

Victory Over Temptation

Our Saviour has not only fasted for us forty days and forty nights, but was also exposed to the most trying temptation of Satan. Being acquainted with the tricks of Satan. He knows how to succor His people in times of adversity and pity them when they fall into temptation. So it is written, "For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted.... He is able to aid those who are tempted." (Heb. 2:18)

Therefore, we should not weaken to temptation, we should be fortified by Him in our fight against weaknesses of the flesh and worldly desires, and ask His support to withstand and reject the deceiving enticements of the devil. Knowing that in this life it is impossible to escape temptation, but one thing is sure: temptations are not meant to make us sin, but to enable us to conquer sin. They are not meant to make us bad, but to make us good. They are meant to be tests from which we emerge better worriers and athletes of God.

Know Your CHURCH

إعراف كنيسةك

طقس

قداسات الصوم الكبير

قداسات الايام (من الاثنين الى الجمعة) في الصوم الكبير تختلف في طقسها عن القداسات السنوية فيما يلي:

- 1- ليس لها طقس رفع بخور عشية.
- 2- تقرأ في رفع بخور باكر نبوات من العهد القديم.
- 2- تصلى فيها المطانيات بعد قراءة النبوات.
- 3- فيها تصلى مزامير السواحي جميعها في تقديم الحمل.
- 5- الصوم فيها انقطاعي والقداس يبدأ وينتهي متأخراً. والاستعداد للتناول في هذه القداسات المتأخرة يبدأ في منتصف الليل ولا يكون تسعة ساعات كالقداسات العادية. اما قداسات السبت والاحد فتصلى فيها مزامير الساعتين الثالثة والسادسة فقط، وتخرج في وقتها المعتاد ولا يقرأ في رفع بخور باكر فيها نبوات ولا تصلى فيها مطانيات، وكل هذا مرتبط بأن يومي السبت والاحد لا يجوز فيها الصوم الانقطاعي، ولا تصلى رفع بخور عشية مساء السبت.

Three Wonderful Words ... It Is Written



The way of victory over temptations is set before us in our Lord's example. It is to have regard to God's Word. Notice the "It is Written" which our Lord used on each occasion. It is from the book of "Deuteronomy". This means that He quoted the scriptures to the devil. He drew His arguments against him, and got this victory over him from the Holy Scripture.

We should know and trust the scriptures so well that we are able to use them against the devil when he comes to tempt us. If you want the Bible to be your help in temptation, you must learn to know it and use it ... Read it and study it every day.

اجتماعيات

تهنئ الكنيسة:



- الدكتور عماد رزق وعروسه الأتسة لوريت سيدهم بزفانها المبارك. الرب يضيئ لهما طريق السعادة والهناء ويحفظهما ثابتين على العهد المقدس.
- الدكتور جرج منير وزوجته الدكتورة نهلة بعماد مولودهما جوزيف.
- الاستاذ عادل شونده وزوجته السيدة فيفي بعماد مولودهما ستيفن.
- الاستاذ مجدى جرجس وزوجته السيدة ايلين بعماد مولودهما ميكل.
- الدكتور جورج جندي وزوجته الدكتورة ماري بولودهما ميكل.
- الدكتور يوسف حناتي وزوجته المهندسة مرنا بولودتهما صوفى.
- الاستاذ نادر بطرس وزوجته السيدة هبة بولودهما انطون.

AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

* Included with this issue is a contest on the topics covered in the 90-91 Church Review. How great will be, if the whole family participates in this form of spiritual exercise during the Holy Lent.

* Read first the instructions written in the attached answer-card, then write your answers on it. Your answer card should be received no later than April, 12, 1992.

يوم ٢ مارس يبدأ
الصوم الاربعيني المقدس

روحانية الصوم

لصاحب القداسة الابا انبا شنودة الثالث

ماهي علاقة الله بصومك؟

ما الذي اخذه الله من صومك؟ وما الذي اخذته انت من الله؟ وماذا اعطيت الله في صومك وماذا اعطاك؟.. هل كان صومك فترة غير عادية في حياتك؟.. اياماً مقدسة شعرت فيها بيقظة روحية تدعوك لتذوق وتنظر ما اطيب الرب.. هل اختبرت فيها كيف تسلك حسب الروح وليس حسب الجسد.

الصوم... هو انطلاق الروح

ليس الصوم هو تغيير طعام بطعام، وليس هو امتناع فترة معينة عن الطعام. كل هذه مجرد وسائل، ولكنها ليست جوهر الصوم. فجوهر الصوم هو انطلاق الروح من مطالب الجسد. لكي يسمو الجسد معها، ويرتفع الانسان بعيداً عن ثقل المادة، متجهين معا نحو محبة الله والتمتع بعشرته... هذا هو الصوم.

احرص ان يكون الصوم قد غير فيك شيئاً

لا تأخذ من الصوم مجرد تغيير الطعام، انما تغيير الحياة الى افضل.. تغيير النقاىص التي فيك، والضعفات التي تحسها في علاقتك مع الله والناس، لانه ماذا تستفيد ان قهرت نفسك خلال خمسة وخمسين يوماً، وخرجت من الصوم كما كنت تماماً قبله. دون ان تكون علاقة حب مع الله وعلاقة ثبات فيه؟..

تأمل كم صوماً مرت عليك وانت كما انت

كم هي عدد الاصوام التي صمتها منذ عرفت الله حتى الآن؟.. كم سنة مرت عليك، وفي كل سنة عدد من الاصوام مع اربعاء وجمعة كل اسبوع؟ تأمل لو كنت في كل صوم منها تنجح ارادتك ولو في الانتصار على نقطة ضعف معينة، حتى تصطلح مع الله فيها وتذوق حلوة مشيئته... ترى لو سلكت هكذا كم كنت ترى حصاد حياتك وثيراً في الروحيات وكم كانت علاقتك بالله تزيد وتعمق؟...

من تسابيح الكنيسة خلال الصوم المقدس

صوما صامه الرب يسوع
صوما روحانيا بدموع
وقفوا بخشوع في القداسات.