

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

OPERATING IN THE SPIRIT REALM

RLJ-1431

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PART 2: SATAN'S FINAL SHOTS

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

The temptation of Jesus was another flashpoint in the spirit world. Satan was given the legal right to tempt Jesus to sin and Jesus prepared Himself by asking John the Baptist to baptize Him in water. **Matthew 3:13-15**

This gave God the legal right to baptize Jesus in the Holy Spirit and equip Him with supernatural powers. **verses 16-17**

Once Jesus had been spiritually prepared, the Holy Spirit led him into the wilderness, where he would fast for 40 days and nights. **Matthew 4:1-2**

Fasting unleashes the power of God. **Matthew 17:18-21**

Satan came alone when he approached Jesus. God's angels and Satan's fallen angels were not permitted to take part in this spiritual battle, but surrounding them were thousands of warring angels from both camps who watched breathlessly as the Devil was given one chance to take down Jesus. Satan wasn't able to achieve a victory over Jesus like he had previously done with Eve in the Garden of Eden because Jesus used the Word of God as a weapon to overcome the attacks. **Matthew 4:3-10**

Once this spiritual battle was over, holy angels came and ministered to Jesus. **verse 11**

I believe that they not only strengthened him, but also gave him food to eat to recover from this very intense battle as they did with the prophet Elijah. **1 Kings 19:1-8**

THE CRUCIFIXION

The crucifixion was Satan's last effort to destroy Jesus and hinder Him from completing His mission on earth. Satan didn't know about God's redemption plan, and what he thought was victory, turned out to be his greatest defeat. **1 Corinthians 2:7-8**

In order to murder Jesus, Satan and evil spirits had to break into the physical world and possess men who could be manipulated to murder Jesus.

Satan personally entered into the body of Judas and possessed him. **Luke 22:1-6**

Powerful demons entered into the Jewish leadership and turned them into raging hateful men, who could not stand Jesus and wanted Him dead. **Matthew 26:3-5**

Powerful demons entered the armed forces of the High Priest and turned them into a howling mob. **Luke 23:1-23**



Satan knew that this was his last chance and did everything he could to see that Jesus was physically abused to the breaking point. **Matthew 26:65-68**

A demon possessed Pontius Pilate ordered Jesus to be murdered. **Luke 23:20-25**

Demon possessed Roman soldiers took over and cruelly tormented Jesus by whipping him until his skin was bloody and shredded. **Matthew 27:26-31**

The people in Jerusalem could not see thousands of demons lashing out against Jesus through these men, screaming in His face that He was not the Son of God, that He was an impostor and taunting Him to prove that He was the Messiah. **Matthew 27:39-43**

The final blow came when God laid the sins of mankind on Jesus and started to judge Him. The sustaining lifeline from God was severed and Jesus had to fight to the very end, utilizing only the divine power that was in Him. **Matthew 27:45-46; John 19:30**

SUMMARY

When Satan engaged Jesus in this battle, he had at his disposal his fallen angels and thousands of men, who were doing his bidding.

God's holy angels who had been assigned to protect Jesus during His 33 years on the earth were told to stand down and watch in agony as Jesus faced the fury of Satan alone. **Matthew 26:51-56**

The thousands who met Jesus on Palm Sunday and worshipped him were not part of the crowd that demanded his death before Pilate. **Matthew 21:1-11**

As they helplessly witnessed the arrest of Jesus and His crucifixion, they could not see the spiritual battle that was taking place. Even the disciples did not understand the horrendous spiritual battle that raged in Jerusalem for 24 hours.

The same still holds true today; people see confrontations in the flesh, but have no clue that thousands of demons and holy angels are battling for control over people.

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?