

**TODAY'S  
SCRIPTURE  
LESSON:**

**Mark  
9:14-29**

**TITLE:**

**"Flexing Your  
Spiritual Muscle:  
The Discipline of  
Fasting" (Part IV)**

**SUB-TITLE:**

**"Showdown  
In  
Jerusalem"**

**2017 LENTEN SEASON**

March 1st --> Ash Wed.;  
March 5th --> **1st Lent Sun.**(Lent Begins);  
March 12th --> 2nd Lent Sun.;  
March 19th --> **17th Annv.Sun**;  
March 26th --> 4th Lent Sun.;  
April 2nd --> 5th Lent Sun.;  
April 9th --> **Palm Sunday** (6th Lent. Sun)  
April 14th --> **Good Friday**;  
April 15th --> **Holy Sat.**(Lent Ends);  
April 16th --> **Resurrection Sunday**

**WHAT IS LENT?**

Lent is a 40-day liturgical season designed to help us wrestle with and overcome aspects of our **human condition** from which we run all year. It should make us confront our need for a Savior.

**WHAT IS LENT?**

***"Human Condition"***

--> fallenness;  
--> fallibilities;  
--> frailties;  
--> fantasies;  
--> foibles;  
--> fractures;  
--> fissures;

## WHAT IS FASTING?

The intentional and deliberate abstinence (staying away from - pushing back) from food, people, or experiences...in order to get closer to GOD!

## JESUS-RELATED 'FASTING'

[4/2] Luke 4:1-4\*\*\*--> *JESUS Tmptd.*;

[3/5] Luke 5:33-39\*\*\*--> *JESUS Qstnd.*;

[3/12] Matt. 6:16-18--> *Sermon on Mnt.*;

[4/9] Matt. 17:21\*\*--> *Demonic Warfare*;

[4/9] Mark 9:14-29\*\*--> *Demonic Warfare*

[4/9] Luke 9:37-42\*\*--> *Demonic Warfare*

## JESUS WAS TEMPTED:

"For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our *weaknesses*, but was in all points *tempted* as we are, yet without sin."  
(Hebrews 4:15)

Then JESUS, being filled with the HOLY SPIRIT, returned from the Jordan and was led by THE SPIRIT into[a] the wilderness, being *tempted* for *forty days* by the devil. And in those days HE ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, *HE was hungry*.  
**Luke 4:1**

And the devil said to Him,  
"If You are the Son of GOD,  
command this stone to...bread."

But JESUS answered...saying,  
"*It is written*, 'Man shall not live  
by bread alone, but  
by every word of GOD.'" "

**Luke 4:3-4**

"Then...taking HIM...on...high mountain,  
showed HIM all...kingdoms of the  
world... and said..."All this authority I will  
give YOU, and their glory;...if YOU will  
worship before me, all will be YOURS."

And JESUS answered and said to him,  
"Get behind Me, Satan! For *It is written*,  
'You shall worship the LORD your GOD,  
and HIM only you shall serve.'" "

**Luke 4:5-8**

Then he brought HIM to Jerusalem, set HIM on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to HIM, "If YOU are the SON of GOD, throw YOURSELF down from here. For it is written:

'HE shall give HIS angels charge over you,  
To keep you,' and,

'In their hands they shall bear you up,  
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'

And JESUS answered and said to him,  
"***It has been said***, 'You shall not tempt  
THE LORD your GOD.'"

**Luke 4:9-12**

Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from HIM until an ***opportune*** time.

**Luke 4:13**

### **CONCLUSION:**

The devil knows our weaknesses and appetites.

How do you guard against the temptations of the devil?

You do so by being anchored in GOD's WORD!!!