

God - Epic Verses

Greatest Biblical Spiritual Battle Christ vs. Satan in the Wilderness

As stated elsewhere, QC endeavors to develop critical reasoning skill, as noted by F.Scot Fitzgerald who wrote, "the test of a first-rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposed ideas in the mind at the same time, and still retain the ability to function."

Doing justice to passages and topics like this requires the kind of "mental tools" QC was designed to provide. These include:

- 1. Reverence enough to let scripture say what it means and mean what it says.
- 2. Faith enough to energize one's imagination without freaking out.
- 3. Curiosity enough to examine epic verses and poke around original languages.
- 4. Humility enough to remember who your betters are.
- 5. Honesty enough to recognize and respond to our extreme need for God.
- 6. Desperation enough to ask, seek and knock until insight is given.
- 7. Love enough to find ways to reveal, rather than conceal, even difficult truths.

Passages made for Quantum Christianity

QC excels in the area of curiosity. Lingering over epic verses and subject matter is our specialty. As questioning is an essential part of curiosity, in QC questions abound!

As the quote from *Animal Farm* goes, "All animals are created equal but some animals are more equal than others" so too some questions are more significant than others.

Given this, an epic question comes to mind:

1. The Bible describes a Cosmic Multidimensional War raging across all <u>3 heavens</u> (this is not a metaphor but a reality more real and lasting than our own).

2. What is the greatest spiritual battle ever Biblically recorded?

Some parameters for such a battle might be:

- 1. A dramatic setting.
- 2. The greatest warriors.
- 3. The greatest weapons.
- 4. The greatest cause.
- 5. The greatest spoils.

Christ vs. Satan in the Wilderness

Interestingly, there is just such a passage possessing all 5 the criteria described above.

Luke 4:1

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but by every word of God.'" The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. So if you worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered, "It says: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

A Quantum Discovery!

The Bible records only a single direct exchange between Christ and Satan comprised of 3 sentences each!

This amazing fact combined with the unique criteria surrounding these verses previously mentioned should logically mark this passage as deserving the greatest of study. Ironically, most pass it by with hardly a thought...

Though deserving our further attention, for the present we will confine our observations to the first exchange only.

A few observations:

- 1. Jesus was "full of the Holy Spirit" after His Jordan baptism.
- 2. He was, "led by the Spirit" into the desert.
- 3. There for forty days He was "tempted by the Devil."

- 4. Christ "ate nothing during those days and at the end of them He was hungry."
- 5. The Devil tempted Him to prove His divinity by turning a stone to bread.
- 6. Jesus answers the temptation with a scripture, "Man does not live on bread alone but by every word of God."

A Quantum Question Begging Asking

Given the clear importance of this passage, within the verse Jesus parries the Devil's attach with, what might be considered the *most important word*?

QC in normally not into theatrics. However, such a question is deserving of a moments reflection. Please consider which word of Jesus' reply might qualify as the most important. When you have formed an answer <u>click here</u>.

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