

Man: What is Temptation?

13) Let no one say when he is tempted (**peirazō**), "I am being tempted (**peirazō**) by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts (**peirazō**) no one. 14) But each person is tempted (**peirazō**) when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. (Jas 1:13-14, ESV)

Use a lexicon to understand the Greek meaning of the verb "tempt." What desires was Satan testing in Jesus?

1) Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted (**peirazō**) by the devil. 2) And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3) And the tempter (**peirazō**) came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." 4) But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Matt 4:1-4, ESV)

How is it that neither God nor Jesus can be tempted by evil? Discuss the relationship between desire and temptation.

For because he himself has suffered when tempted (**peirazō**), he is able to help those who are being tempted (**peirazō**). (Heb 2:18, ESV)

What does it mean to tempt God? Use a lexicon to understand the Hebrew meaning of "tempt."

1) Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7) And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested (**nāsā**) the Lord by saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?" (Ex 17:6-7, ESV)

What is God testing when He tempts man?

1) After these things God tested (**nāsā**) Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 2) He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." (Gen 22:1-2, ESV)

18) Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off 19) and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die." 20) Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test (**nāsā**) you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin." (Ex 20:18-20, ESV)

1) "If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, 2) and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, 'Let us go after other gods,' which you have not known, 'and let us serve them,' 3) you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the Lord your God is testing (**nāsā**) you, to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul." (Deut 13:1-3, ESV)

How do you overcome temptation?

12) Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. 13) No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. (1 Cor 10:12-13, ESV)

8) This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 9) Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." (Josh 1:8-9, ESV)