

# Just Say No (Part 1)

Sermon Series: Luke: All Things New



## Series Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



## Sermon Text

Luke 4:1-13

→ “And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil” (vv. 1-2a).



## Big Idea

If Jesus is God’s answer to all that went wrong with Adam, then Jesus must come and stand where Adam fell. He must look the Devil firm in the eye and say, “No!”

### (1) A High Calling

Jesus, about thirty years of age, is anointed at His baptism by the Spirit into the threefold office of Prophet, Priest, and King. And His very first act as this threefold office holder will be to stand for His people by standing against the enemy of their souls: namely, the devil.

### (2) A Heart Testing (vv. 1-2)

Jesus is being thrust into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to face the Devil. Why? The answer to this question is fundamentally related to the observations we made last week concerning Jesus’ genealogy. Luke traces Jesus’ genealogy through David and Abraham all the way back to Adam to accent the fact that Jesus is God’s answer to all that went wrong with Adam. And how did things go wrong with Adam? Failed Satanic temptation. The Devil came in, and Adam, the son of God, bowed. And we’ve been bowing ever since! Therefore, it is only a natural transition to trace Jesus back to Adam, and then thrust Him into the very combat field where Adam and all of humanity fell so long ago.

In this wilderness temptation, Jesus becomes the first man to ever truly tell the Devil “No!” And He will hold His “No!” firm unto the end. The “opportune time” of v. 13 is none other than the time of His crucifixion. But even there, as He hangs nailed to the cross, His answer to the devil’s advances is still a resolute: “No!” He is the true and everlasting Prophet, Priest, and King—our Mediator who has come to bring us back to God!

### (3) A Holy Church

Jesus is doing what no man ever could—not Adam, not Israel, not anyone under heaven! Before Jesus is our Example He must be our Savior. Before we can follow after Him we must fall before Him. “I can’t do this!” Only one Man was ever able to get in the face of Satan and tell him “No!” And it is only when we are brought into Him and He into us, that our allegiance is broken with the Devil and we find ourselves able to do the same.



## Critical Action

Memorized Scripture is a powerful weapon in the fight against the devil, but nothing is more powerful than an ongoing, consistent, ever-present personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Talk to Him, cry to Him, rest in Him, walk with Him, and triumph in Him.



## Reflection Questions

- Do you believe in the devil? Why or why not? If so, how do you think he is at work in this world? How is he at work in your own life?
- What does it mean that Christ is our Prophet, Priest, and King? Why do we need this?
- The Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness of testing. Is this something unique to the Messiah or does God sometimes do this with us? How so?
- What are you struggling to say “No!” to in your life right now? Why do you think that is? How does Christ in you free you to say “No!” as He did? Have you experienced this before?