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## The Role Played by Satan in the Life of Jesus Christ

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## THE ROLE PLAYED BY SATAN IN THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST

There are at least six recorded occasions when Satan specifically attacked the Savior:

- “In Bethlehem, where he attempted to kill Him:

*“And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him” (Mt. 2:13).*

- “In the wilderness, where he tempted Him:

A. In matters of independence (Mt. 4:3-4)

B. In matters of indulgence (Mt. 4:5-7)

C. In matters of idolatry (Mt. 4:8-10)

Outline as suggested by Charles Ryrie (*Basic Theology*, p. 147).

- At Caesarea Philippi, where he attempted to sidetrack Him from Calvary (first occasion):

*“From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men” (Mt. 16:21-23).*

- At the Feast of Passover, where he attempted to sidetrack Him from Calvary (second occasion):

*“Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.... Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me” (Jn. 12:27, 31-32).*

- In the Upper Room, where he arranged to betray Him:

*“When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.... He then lying on Jesus’ breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it? Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly” (Jn. 13:21, 25-27).*

- In Gethsemane, where he attempted to break Him emotionally and physically:

*“And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray. And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy; and saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here,*

*and watch. And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt” (Mk. 14:32-36).*

*“And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground” (Lk. 22:44).*

- On the cross