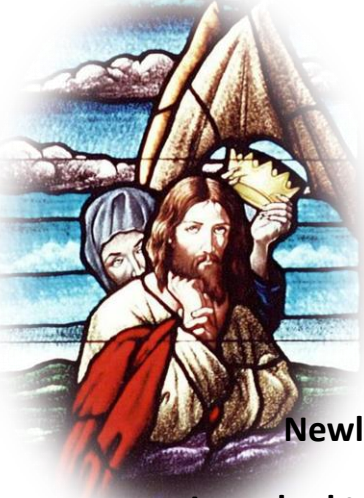




(“TEMPTATION OF CHRIST” courtesy of Austin Avenue United Methodist Church, Waco, TX)

Matthew 4: 1

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.



LIFE'S TEMPTATIONS

Newly baptized, with His Father's approval euphorically floating in His head
Jesus had to be shocked, when into the desert, He, by the Spirit was led
To fully experience, humanities temptations, as a man without divine power
Exhausted, hungry and feeling alone, was vulnerable in a very dark hour.

Satan the fallen angel, used every known tactic, trying to get Jesus to sin
Noting His condition, approached with great force, using enormous temptations to win
He offered to Jesus, relief from hunger and worldly treasures as well
But Jesus not wavering, resisted temptation, and to the devil His soul did not sell.

Had Jesus given in, His mission on earth, sadly, would have been tragically lost
No gift to mankind, of eternal life, would have come with our death as the cost
But Jesus knew scripture and used it on Satan, like a mighty sharp swift sword
By combating temptation, with the Word of God, victory was His reward.

Celebrating life's blessings, your heart may be basking, in the radiance of a glorious morning
When dark clouds of trouble cloud the blue sky, and violently appear without warning
Our Lord knows firsthand, the temptations and struggles in life His children must face
And will illuminate His Light, in the dark recesses, and throughout every hidden place.