

Refrigerator Notes 14 February 2016
“An Opportunity (Strength and Weakness)
Luke 4:1-13

1. The morning scripture opened with a familiar passage. Jesus starving for 40 days in the wilderness, without food.
2. However, the scripture does not say that Jesus survived without water, but it is believed that Jesus may have ingested some water
3. The scripture goes on to say that Jesus was approached by Satan, three times, whom tried to tempt Jesus, but Jesus defined Himself with the word of God (for even Satan knows the word of God)
4. Yet, Satan tried to use reverse psychology on Jesus by misquoting God's Word, to our Lord and Savior, in an attempt to get the Lord to serve him – (“do not put the Lord your God to the test”)
5. After three attempts on the devil part, he left our Lord and Savior until an opportune time
6. Scripture does not report any other direct assaults on our Lord Jesus, but scripture does report and affirm direct assaults on the Lord's disciples by the devil
7. The first lesson that we learned is that the devil will run a frontal assault, even against the Lord's disciples, at their greatest hour of need (“Man does not live by Bread alone.”)
8. It is our needs that gives Satan access to our life, as he did to Jesus, to tempt us at our weakness point in life or when we are most vulnerable to an attack
9. However, although Jesus was at His weakest point, our Lord did not give in
10. The second lesson that we should learn is that our wants can make us very vulnerable to the attacks of Satan
11. The phrase “opportune time”, opens the door of opportunities for us to be tested by God, the question is, will you forsake our Lord and Savior as Peter did, only to be told “get behind me Satan”?
12. However, the gospel reminds us that the devil laid low, until he had an opportune time to undermine Jesus' mission, by causing the people to doubt the word that Jesus preached
13. Simply put, the devil looks for every opportunity to steal, snatch or take away any word that is planted or sowed in us by our Lord and Savior
14. We also learn that although you may be strengthened in the word of the Lord, Satan will attack the one's you love, in an attempt to pull you into his snare
15. The third lesson that we learned was although you have the strength to fight off Satan's attempts, there may be someone or something around you that Satan will attempt to use against the Lord's servant!
16. Satan does not want people to believe in God! He seeks to motivate people to doubt the Word of God, to doubt that Jesus was the Messiah, to doubt the biblical prophecies, to doubt that Jesus died for our sins, and returned to life, and ascended back to heaven. (Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.)
17. In fact, Satan wants people to question that he himself really exist
18. People who are out of harmony with God, out of harmony with God's servants and out of harmony with themselves, come one step closer to destruction, which is his ultimate objective, Satan's opportunity to strike one's heel
19. Only you can crush Satan by constant prayer and being in the Word of God. Continue to pray for your love ones as well as for your church DPC!