

When Satan Pushes You
Luke 4:1-3
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show how to respond when Satan pushes you.

Intro: 1. One of the first actions of a bully is to push someone to see how they respond.
2. The Christian must respond in the right way and in a strong way.

I. Satan's Attack & Man's Defense

A. 40+ days of temptation (**Luke 4:1-2**)

1. This was an extended period of temptation.
 - a. An extended period of being pushed and pushed by Satan.
2. While Matthew focuses on three temptations in this section (Mt 4), Luke reveals these temptations lasted for 40 days.
 - a. Talk about a bad “couple of days”!

B. Man's Defense – the Scriptures

1. Christ defended Himself through scriptures as revealed in Matthew & Luke.
2. We also find that in stressful times Christ often prayed (**Mt 26:36-39**), its possible this was also part of His defense against temptation.

II. Man's Offensive attack on Satan

A. Growth in the knowledge of God

1. By studying God's Word man grows closer to Him (**Jn 15:7-10**).
2. Drawing near to God means He draws near to us, and leaves no room for Satan (**James 4:8a**).

B. Be a busy servant of God

1. Uphold the weak and struggling
2. Reach out to the lost
3. By doing these things we expand not only the Kingdom of God but expand His Holy Army (**2 Tim 2:1-3**).
 - a. More soldiers for Christ is always a good thing!

III. Lessons for us today.

A. Draw near to God...

1. **Drawing near to God is the first reaction to being pushed around by Satan.**
2. **We hardships or temptations come, go to the right place-to God!**

B. ...And Satan will run.

1. **We must never forget that Christ caused Satan to flee by standing up to Him.**
 - a. He did this by quoting scriptures and following them (**Lk 4:13**)
 - b. Satan fled but this doesn't mean He wouldn't return to try again in some way.
2. Job resisted Satan for (what some say) was months.
3. Christ and Job serve as just two of many examples of resisting Satan and even pushing back against Him by their determined faithfulness to God.

Application & Conclusion:

1. The knockout blow to Satan is faithful, unwavering obedience to God & His Word.
 - i. Rejecting Satan and repenting of sins when necessary.
2. While Satan may push you from time to time be sure you know how to respond not only on defense but also be brave enough to push back.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent –Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9