



## [Luke 4:9-13](#)

(9) Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. (10) For it is written:

*'He shall give His angels charge over you,  
To keep you,'* (11) and,

*'In their hands they shall bear you up,*

*Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'*" (12) And Jesus answered and said to him, "It has been said, *'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'*" (13) Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

## [Matthew 4:5-7](#)

(5) Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, (6) and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written:

*" He shall give His angels charge over you,"* and,

*" In their hands they shall bear you up,*

*Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"* (7) Jesus said to him, "It is written again, *"You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'"*

*New King James Version*

The theme here is protection. [Satan](#) quotes from [Psalm 91:11-12](#), which has the same theme. He is quoting back to [Jesus](#) the very words that He had inspired, but he does it without quoting the entirety of the two verses. He leaves out one phrase: "in all your ways." Jesus immediately replies, showing him that he had misapplied it: [God](#) does not guarantee He will protect us "in all our ways."

Will Jesus protect us in our rebellion? Will He protect us if we are downright foolish? God certainly expects us to do things involving [faith](#) in Him, which the unconverted may consider to be foolish or dangerous. But willfully exposing ourselves to any danger,

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Luke 4:9-13 (<http://www.theberean.org>) presuming that God is going to protect us, is tempting Him. Man has no right to dictate to God what He should do.

It is as if Satan is saying to Jesus: "Since you are God's Son, certainly He will protect You from whatever danger You may get into. His angels will always be there to help You. You cannot be hurt. Deliverance will always be there. You can trust Him." It sounds good, but it is built upon a presumption.

Some ministers, when they are counseling people on a trial, say, "You just do what I told you, and everything will work out." The implication is that, even if the minister's counsel is wrong, God will smooth it over and make it work simply because he is God's minister and they are God's people. From this temptation of Jesus, we can see that He does not believe that. We cannot tempt God and expect His promises to force Him to rescue us. God may, in His [mercy](#), rescue us because of our ignorance, but that is not the spiritually mature way to think.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

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[A Place of Safety? \(Part 2\)](#)



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