

Matthew 04

Scriptures:

Notes:

Matthew 4:1-11 - The King is Tested!

Scriptures:

Hebrews 2:18 - For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

Hebrews 4:15 - For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

2 Corinthians 13:5 - Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.

Matthew 16:1 - Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven.

James 1:13-14 - Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.

¹ Then Jesus  was led up by the Spirit  into the

G321 -

wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

G3985 - examine, submit another to a test, to learn the true nature or character of, try to trap, attempt to catch in a mistake.

G1228 -

Notes:

Why was Jesus tempted? It seems that He was tempted so that we would have Him as an aid and an example ([Heb. 2:18; 4:15](#)) in our temptations.

‘to be tempted’ = ‘to be tested’ ([2 Cor. 13:5](#)) translates this word as ‘examine.’ ([Matt. 16:1](#)) translates it as ‘testing.’

Our victory over temptation reinforces our identity as children of a holy God.

Only someone who resists temptations knows the full weight of it. Jesus felt the full weight of the devil’s temptations, and He fully resisted them.

‘by the Spirit...by the devil’ – God ordained the temptations but He didn’t do the tempting. God never tempts anyone to sin ([James 1:13](#)).

‘tempted’ can also be translated as tested. The devil is testing Jesus to see if He is the true Son of God.

Scriptures:

1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty

Word study

Notes:

Why did He fast? Why did He fast for so long?

Jesus was tempted when He was most weak.

Satan came when Jesus was at His weakest point. Lions do not typically go after the strong animals but the weak and vulnerable (1 Peter 5:8).

nights, afterward He was hungry.

Word study

Scriptures:

3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said,

G3985 – Same as v1.

Notes:

‘If you are...’ – Was the devil trying to create doubt in Jesus’ mind? Or was there doubt in Satan’s mind? This can also be translated as, ‘Since you are the Son of God.’

‘command...stones’ – Could Jesus have done that? Yes, He could have, but it would have been selfish to do so. Using the power entrusted to His people for selfish reasons is wicked – devilish.

“If You are the Son of God, command that

G2036 – to order

This is a temptation to exalt Himself. God sent Him out into the wilderness, would He trust God to take care of Him there.

these stones become bread.”

G1096 -

This is a temptation to use His power as the Son of God for His own benefit. He was ordained by God to be the sacrifice that takes away the sins of the world. He couldn’t think of Himself.

“Baptism into Christ does not mean health and wealth and a shallow happiness. Baptism into Christ means self-denial, suffering, trials, and temptations.” (O’Donnel, 2013) page 84

Gold is not refined by placing it on a velvet cushion in a glass case. Gold is refined in the fire that forces impurities to be revealed.

Scriptures:

Deuteronomy 8:3 - So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.

4 But He answered and said,

"It is written, *Man shall not live by bread*

G1125 -

alone, but by every word that proceeds from

the mouth of God."

Notes:

Jesus quotes ([Deut. 8:3](#)).

"Better to die with an empty belly and a full soul than with an empty soul but a full belly." (O'Donnel, 2013) page 87

Scriptures:

Nehemiah 11:1 - Now the leaders of the people dwelt at Jerusalem; the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to dwell in Jerusalem, the holy city, and nine-tenths were to dwell in other cities.

5 Then the devil took Him up into the holy city,

Notes:

'holy city' = Jerusalem ([Neh. 11:1](#)).

set Him on the pinnacle of the temple,

Scriptures:

Psalm 91:11 - For He shall
give His angels charge over
you,

To keep you in all your
ways.

Psalm 91:12 - In their
hands they shall bear you
up,

Lest you dash your foot
against a stone.

⁶ and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God,

throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He

G906 -

Notes:

The Devil quotes from (Psa. 9:11-12)
to tempt Jesus to test God. The Devil
knows what the Bible says. Knowing
what the Bible says does not make
you holy. Only faith and the Holy
Spirit can do that.

The Devil also knows that the Bible is
true. Knowing the Bible is true does
not make you a child of God. You
must submit to its authority over
your life.

shall give His angels charge over you, 'and, in

their hands they shall bear you up, lest you

dash your foot against a stone.' "

Scriptures:

Deuteronomy 16:6 - You
shall not tempt the LORD
your God as you tempted
Him in Massah.

⁷ Jesus said to him, "It is written again,

'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.' "

G15989 - put to a
test, try to trap,

Notes:

Scriptures:

1 John 2:15-17 - Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

Matthew 16:26 - For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

⁸ Again, the devil took Him up on an

exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him

all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

Notes:

This is a temptation to lust after the things of the world (1 John 2:15-17). To yield to this temptation, Jesus would have forfeited everything (Matt. 16:26).

Scriptures:

Luke 4:6 - And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish."

⁹ And he said to Him, "All these things

I will give You if You will fall down and worship

G1325 -

G4098 – prostrate oneself before

G4352 - to worship ⇔ bow down v. — to worship, conceived of as bowing down to a deity.

me."

Notes:

Luke's gospel expands on this verse (Luke 4:6) saying that the Devil was given authority over the nations. Satan is a liar and the father of lies, but Jesus doesn't contest his claim and simply rebukes him regarding worshipping God only.

Scriptures:
Deuteronomy 6:13 -

10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you,

Notes:
'Away with you' – Get behind Me.

Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the

LORD your God, and Him only

you shall serve.' "

G3000 - worship,
minister or serve
(in religious
duties)

Scriptures:
James 4:7 - Therefore
submit to God. Resist the
devil and he will flee from
you.

11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels

G863 - departed

Notes:
'the devil left Him' – Just in the same
way that Jesus stood up to the devil
can, in His name (James 4:7).

1 Corinthians 10:13 - No
temptation has overtaken
you except such as is
common to man; but God is
faithful, who will not allow
you to be tempted beyond
what you are able, but with
the temptation will also
make the way of escape,
that you may be able to
bear it.

came and ministered to Him.

G1247 – serve,
take care of

The temptations Christ faced were
tough, but they were also
temporary. So, also, our temptations
will be tough for us, but they are
only temporary. Resist them and you
will get through them.
God allows temptations to test us
and refine our faith. He never sends
us into a temptation that we cannot
resist and be victorious through faith
in Christ (1 Cor. 10:13).

"If you say, "No," the devil will go."
(O'Donnel, 2013) page 89

[Top of section](#) [Top of chapter](#)