



# MATTHEW

*Messiah Has Come*



4:1-11

*Messiah's Temptation*



# Purpose

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Matthew's gospel was written to provide clarity and stability for the early church concerning the person of Jesus as Israel's **Messiah** and as **Head** of the Church.

**Q1**

What does this teach me about Jesus as Messiah?

**Q2**

What does this teach me about Jesus as Head of the Church?

## **Last Week's Principle**

The people of God need to choose to have a change of mind (repent), identify themselves with, and set themselves apart (consecrate) for the King and his coming Kingdom.

## Matthew 4:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup> And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” <sup>4</sup> But he answered, “It is written, “ ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

## Matthew 4:1-11

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple <sup>6</sup> and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, “ ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and “ ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’ ” <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

## Matthew 4:1-11

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup> And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “ ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’ ” <sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

# CONTEXT

## Matthew 3:15-16

<sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him,

“Let it be so now,

for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.”

Then he consented.

<sup>16</sup> And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup> and behold, a voice from heaven said,

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

## Matthew 4:1 (Jesus was led by the Spirit)

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

### *Led by the Spirit*

- *The Spirit (He just received) was active in directing Jesus.*
- *Jesus was active in following the Spirit.*



## Matthew 4:1 (Jesus was led by the Spirit)

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

### *into the wilderness*

- *Jesus was isolated from physical resources*

- *Jesus was removed from the emotional support of people*

## Matthew 4:1 (Jesus was led by the Spirit)

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness  
to be tempted by the devil.

*Genesis 3:6. ...when the woman saw that the tree was  
good for food [physical]  
and that it was a delight to the eyes [emotional]  
and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise [spiritual]*

### ***to be tempted***

- *Temptation is an exchange of ideas with the goal of moving a person from dependence on God to dependence on self to meet real needs.*



## Matthew 4:1 (Jesus was led by the Spirit)

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted **by the devil.**

*James 1:13. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.*

### ***by the devil***

- *Although Jesus was led by the Spirit for the purpose of being tempted, the Spirit was not the agent doing the temptation.*

## Matthew 4:1 (Jesus was led by the Spirit)

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

### *Important Questions*

- *Did Satan know who Jesus was?*
- *Why was it necessary for Jesus to be tempted?*



## Matthew 4:2 (Jesus was in need)

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

<sup>2</sup> And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

***after fasting...he was hungry***

*- Jesus' hunger spanned more than the physical realm. He was also hungry emotionally and spiritually.*

## Matthew 4:3 (Satan used Jesus' hunger to tempt him)

<sup>3</sup> And the tempter came and *said to him*,

“If you are the Son of God,

command these stones to become loaves of bread.”



## Matthew 4:3 (Satan used Jesus' hunger to tempt him)

<sup>3</sup> And the tempter came and ***said to him***,

“If you are the Son of God,

command these stones to become loaves of bread.”

***command these stones to become loaves of bread***

- *Satan was tempting Jesus through His lack of physical needs to cast off His dependence on the Father and to take care of it himself.*

## Matthew 4:4 (Jesus relied on God and His Word)

<sup>3</sup> And the tempter came and ***said to him***,

“If you are the Son of God,  
command these stones to become loaves of bread.”

<sup>4</sup> But ***he answered***,

“It is written,

“ ‘Man shall not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’

***man shall not live by bread alone...***

- *There is something deeper than physical needs that must be the anchor of dependence...*



## Matthew 4:4 (Jesus relied on God and His Word)

<sup>3</sup> And the tempter came and ***said to him***,

“If you are the Son of God,  
command these stones to become loaves of bread.”

<sup>4</sup> But ***he answered***,

“It is written,

“ ‘Man shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

***man...lives by every word that comes from the mouth of God.***

- Recall, the mouth of God just spoke 40 days prior to this,

*“This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased.”*

## Section Summary

Satan accused God of not meeting Jesus' PHYSICAL need of hunger and then offered a way Jesus could get that need met on his own terms without depending on the Father.

This put Jesus in a position of either abandoning His dependence on God or clinging to Him and what He had said.

## Matthew 4:5 (Satan used Jesus' need for love to tempt him)

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city  
and set him on the pinnacle of the temple <sup>6</sup> and ***said to him***,

“If you are the Son of God,

throw yourself down, for it is written,

“ ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’

and

“ ‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.’ ”



## Matthew 4:5 (Satan used Jesus' need for love to tempt him)

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city  
and set him on the pinnacle of the temple <sup>6</sup> and ***said to him***,

“If you are the Son of God,  
**throw yourself down,** for it is written,

“ ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’  
and

“ ‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.’ ”

## Matthew 4:7 (Jesus relied on God and His Word)

<sup>7</sup> Jesus *said to him*,

“Again it is written,

‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’ “

## Section Summary

Satan accused God of not meeting Jesus' EMOTIONAL need of love and then offered a way Jesus could get that need met on his own terms by forcing the Father's hand to prove it.

This put Jesus in a position of either abandoning His dependence on God or clinging to Him and what He had said.



## Matthew 4:9 (Satan used Jesus' need for significance to tempt him)

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

<sup>9</sup> And he ***said to him***,

“All these I will give you,  
if you will fall down and worship me.”

***...all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.***

- *Satan knows the Jesus is the Son of God, the Jewish Messiah, who has come to take back the Kingdom and to rule over it! This was well-established prophecy.*

## Matthew 4:9 (Satan used Jesus' need for significance to tempt him)

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

<sup>9</sup> And he ***said to him***,

“All these I will give you,  
if you will fall down and worship me.”

***All these I will give you***

- *Satan had rulership over these kingdoms by stealing it from Adam, way back in the garden of Eden. He was and still is the ruler of this world.*

## Matthew 4:9 (Satan used Jesus' need for significance to tempt him)

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

<sup>9</sup> And he ***said to him***,

“All these I will give you,

if you will fall down and worship me.”

***fall down and worship me***

- Satan was offering Jesus an *ALTERNATIVE MEANS* by which he could fulfill his legitimate need of significance and his destiny to be ruler over all the earth.



## Matthew 4:10 (Jesus relied on God and His Word)

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

<sup>9</sup> And he ***said to him***,

“All these I will give you,  
if you will fall down and worship me.”

<sup>10</sup> Then ***Jesus said to him***,

“Be gone, Satan!

For it is written, “

‘You shall worship the Lord your God  
and him only shall you serve.’ ”

## Section Summary

Satan accused God of not meeting Jesus' SPIRITUAL need of significance and then offered a way Jesus could get that need met on his own terms without depending on the Father.

This put Jesus in a position of either abandoning His dependence on God or clinging to Him and what He had said.

# Satan's Tactic

Satan attempts to **C.O.R.N.E.R.** us into making a decision to cast God aside and depend on self to meet our personal needs.

**C**ontext: *He comes to us in a state of unmet needs.*

**O**bject: *He presents an object to draw our attention away from God.*

**R**eward: *He offers a reward to meet our deep need(s).*

**N**egate & **E**vade: *He presents a way the reward can be gained by negating and evading God's design.*

**R**esponse: *He presses for a response of action.*



# Satan's Tactic

	EVE	JESUS	JESUS	JESUS
CONTEXT	Together & Secure	Physically Hungry	Emotionally Lonely	Spiritually Insignificant
OBJECT	Forbidden Fruit	Stones/Bread	Temple Mount	Kingdoms of the World
REWARD	Be like God	Satisfied Physically	Experience Love	King over the world
NEGATE & EVADE	Take a bite	Misuse your position	Put God to the test	Bow down to Satan
RESPONSE	Took the bite/bait	Resisted and Depended	Resisted and Depended	Resisted and Depended

# Response to Satan's Tactic

EVE	JESUS	You
Engaged Satan alone	Engaged Satan by walking in the Spirit	?
Misquoted God's Word	Quoted God's Word accurately	?
Considered Satan's Offer	Remained dependent on the Father	?
Changed allegiance to Satan	Maintained righteousness to God	?

# Principle

Satan attacks God's children in their most vulnerable times by offering a way to meet their unmet needs independent of God. By pressing into God and His Word, His children can stand against Satan's attacks regardless of their circumstances.

**Q1**

*What does this teach me about Jesus as Messiah?*

# Principle

Satan attacks God's children in their most vulnerable times by offering a way to meet their unmet needs independent of God. By pressing into God and His Word, His children can stand against Satan's attacks regardless of their circumstances.

**Q2**

*What does this teach me about Jesus as Head of the Church?*



# Principle

Satan attacks God's children in their most vulnerable times by offering a way to meet their unmet needs independent of God. By pressing into God and His Word, His children can stand against Satan's attacks regardless of their circumstances.

*Other Elder Input...*

**Next Week**

Matthew 4:12-25