

## The Journey

### Series 04: Christ

#### Week 33: The Deliverer Resists

*\*We are indebted to [Ethnos360](#) for providing the basis of these lessons\**

### Review (Where We Have Been)

#### Questions for Review...

#### When did God first promise to send the Deliverer?

After Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden.

- ✓ Righteousness (and being right with God) was gone
- ✓ Their sin brought death (spiritual, physical, eternal) as payment
- ✓ God promised a Deliverer to pay the sin debt and make people right with God

#### Why wouldn't the Deliverer (Jesus) be born a sinner?

Because God (not a man) would be His father. The Deliverer could pay the sin debt on behalf of people and make them right with God (give them righteousness)

#### What does the name *Christ* mean in Greek?

God's Anointed, Chosen One (also Messiah, Deliverer)

#### What was John's message to the Jews?

Repent and be Baptized

#### What are the 3 parts of repentance?

- **Attitude change about God** (God is the only true God and we should worship Him alone)
- **Attitude change about Ourselves** (We sinned against God and are unable to fix it.)
- **Attitude change about Sin** (God hates all sin and sin deserves God's judgment)

### BIG Idea

**Jesus as fully man & fully God always and completely obeyed God.**

**Satan is God's enemy is a liar and deceiver.**

**Jesus is stronger than Satan.**

### Information (What We Need to Know)

After Jesus was presented by John and was baptized then the Spirit led Him into the wilderness.

### **The Serpent Reenters the Story. (Gen 3 - Throughout the Old Testament)**

**Matthew 4:1 (ESV)** Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

**REVIEW:** Satan, Devil, Serpent - God created the being known as Satan/Serpent. Satan was created perfect but made the choice to sin against God in the very beginning. He had pride and felt he should be greater than God. God cast Satan and his followers out of heaven to the earth. The whole goal of Satan and his followers is to warp or destroy the things God creates and gives. And to lead people from God.

It would seem from Genesis 3 that he was successful in plunging the entire human race into sin. But God knew it would happen and he had a plan.

\*What we are seeing is Satan facing off against God yet again. His great desire is that Jesus would come under his control so that He would not be our deliverer.

**I Peter 5:8** - Devil is Your enemy. He goes around like a roaring lion looking for someone to attack/devour (Be Alert Be Sober Minded)

**I Peter 5:9 (ESV)** Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

Today we are going to see Jesus resist Satan/Serpent/Devil.

## **Satan tempts Jesus to prove that He is the Son of God**

**Matthew 4:2-3 (ESV)** And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. **3** And the tempter came and said to him, “If (since) you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”

Reality: Jesus was hungry - Fully Man/Fully God - Jesus got hungry, laughed, cried, tripped, got sick, - He experienced the full range of human experiences.

Why starve yourself? If you are God. Whip up some bread and take care of yourself. **Did Jesus come to cater to His own needs?** No

Jesus just had the Father and the Spirit prove he was the Son of God at the baptism.

**Did Jesus have the ability to perform such a miracle?** YES, Absolutely - He is God - He fed 5,000 with a kid's sack lunch. This was nothing for Him.

**Why did Jesus refuse?** Jesus did not come to obey Satan. He was there to fulfill/complete the plan of God. God did not tell Him to turn stones into bread. Jesus fully submitted to God's way and God's plan. So, He refused to act independently from God the Father and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus' Response -

**Matthew 4:4 (ESV)** But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.""

**Deuteronomy 8:3** - Moses talking to the Jews in the wilderness - God led His people for 40 years in the wilderness. He daily provided for them manna and took care of all their needs so that they understand that man does not live just by bread but from the Word that God gives us.

**In Other Words:** God's Word is much more important in our lives than food. - God's Word shows us the truth and the way to everlasting life.

-What eternal benefit will it be to us if we live healthy throughout our life on earth but remain separated from God forever?

-Yes, we should eat well and nourish our bodies, but we need to read, hear, and believe what God says.

-One day we will have to deal with God. Why not now?

Satan tempts Jesus to prove that God will take care of Him

**Matthew 4:5-6 (ESV)** Then the devil took him to the holy city and 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 will command his angels concerning you,  
and ““On their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.””

Ok Jesus, force God into a supernatural event. An Artificial Crisis. Satan is appealing to everyone’s desire to know the full approval from God and also have it publicly demonstrated. But again, Jesus had this at his baptism. God responded to Jesus’ obedience then.

**Serpent flashback** - “You shall not of every tree in the garden” - Satan is still a liar and deceiver. Tactics have not changed

So, Satan quotes **Psalm 91:11-12**. Should I say, Misquotes and takes out of context? Go ahead the Bible promises that the angels will rescue you. But Satan eliminated several important words, **“To Keep You In All of Your Ways.”** God here is not promising the protection of angels in sinful or forbidden ways. God is not offering protection to anyone when they throw themselves into danger voluntarily.

How many times have you heard someone say that they no longer believe in God because He was not there for them when they needed Him? - God will not be manipulated or coerced.

\*God gives us all the evidence we need in the world around us and in His Word.

Jesus again replies with Scripture - Again from Deuteronomy

**Matthew 4:7 (ESV)** Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Deuteronomy 6:16 - You shall not put the Lord your God to the test - referencing Exodus 17 when they needed water and it was given from a rock.

Jesus believed that the Father would take care of Him as He promised. Jesus had the approval of God and the Holy Spirit guiding Him and He did not need any further proof. He knew. He remembered his baptism.

Satan tempted Jesus to cut corners and worship him.

**Matthew 4:8-9 (ESV)** Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. **9** And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”

When Adam rebelled against God and obeyed Satan, Satan took immediate control to influence humanity's thoughts and attitude toward God and His Word.

Jesus take a shortcut. Satan wants God to bow and worship him.

Satan's heart (and those who follow him) = Worship and recognition

are more precious than the people, possessions, and kingdoms of this world. Satan is like the used car salesman offering Jesus a broken fallen world. When Jesus' kingdom will be perfect, sinless, and without end.

**John 8:44 (ESV)** You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

**II Corinthians 4:4 (ESV)** In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Those who have not been set free from Sin are under Satan's control and are being influenced by him to follow his way of thinking.

This explains our society today. Looking to themselves and their ever-changing rules and ideals for life and acceptance. All that is there is brokenness and death. Hurt, loneliness, pain, confusion, deception

What does Jesus say in **John 14:6** - Jesus said I am the Way, I am the Truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Jesus' final response:

**Matthew 4:10 (ESV)** 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.””

Jesus’ words remind us of **James 4:7** - that we can resist the devil and he will flee from us!

Jesus again quotes Deuteronomy. 6:13. - We are only to worship and serve God alone. No other. And certainly not Satan.

It is no sin to be tempted as long as the temptation is resisted!

**Jesus was victorious over Satan**

**Matthew 4:11 (ESV)** Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

Why was Satan never successful with his rebellion against God? God would never allow a created being to take his place. No created thing should ever take God’s place in our lives.

Satan will never win against God. We know that one day Jesus will cast Satan into the everlasting fire. God prepared this place for Satan and his followers.



## Application (What We Need to Do)

How did Jesus resist temptation? Reading, knowing and savoring God's Word

We effectively resist temptation in the same way Jesus did: by countering Satan's seductive lies by shining the light of God's truth upon them. If we are ignorant of God's truth, we are poorly armed in the fight against temptation. - **David Guzik**

**Ephesians 6:11-16 (ESV)** Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. **12** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. **13** Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. **14** Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, **15** and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. **16** In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; **17** and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, **18** praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.