
WHY THE WILDERNESS?

Matthew 4:1–11 (NKJV)

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. 3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”

4 But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.*’ ” 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.*’ ” 8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.” 10 Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘*You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.*’ ” 11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

FIRST: Why Did the Holy Spirit Lead Jesus into the Wilderness to Be Tempted?

The wilderness was a **place of preparation** before He started His public ministry!

SECOND: Why Did Satan Tempt Jesus?

First: It was to **subvert His mission**.

Second: It was to **test His identity** as the Son of God.

Third: It was to find a way to get Him to **bypass the cross**.

THE WILDERNESS TEACHES US:

FIRST: That Everyone Will Eventually Go Through a Wilderness Experience...

SECOND: To Depend on God Instead of Ourselves.

Matthew 4:3–4 (NKJV)

3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.” 4 But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.*’ ”

THIRD: To Trust God's Timing...

Matthew 4:8-10 (NKJV)

8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, '*You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.*' "