

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

A JOURNEY WITH THE KING



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The gospel of Matthew is written from a strong Jewish perspective so they can see their King, yet much of what we see in Matthew also mirrors the Christian life: through salvation, we are brought into the family and lineage of God (Ch. 1); this salvation offered by God is something ONLY HE can offer (Ch. 1); wise men will find Christ and haters will hate and destroy (Ch. 2); Christ went _____ into Egypt and came up out forever (Ch. 2); Jesus was baptized obediently and publicly to begin His work (Ch. 3). In Chapter 4, Jesus takes **what seems to be** an unexpected turn, a time of proving and testing from the devil himself. We can expect these same challenges as we journey with the Lord.

PROVING THE KING – Matthew 4:1-11

1. Immediately after His baptism, Jesus is **led by the Spirit** to a secluded place to be _____ and seduced by the devil – v. 1-3a; 1 Pet. 5:8-9; 1 Cor 11
 - When you openly _____ to God's plans for your life, or after experiencing a great victory for God, you are the devil's target. He will tempt, try, and seek to seduce you as well (*often when alone and secluded*) – Gen. 3, 4 (1 John 3:12); Job 1, 2; 1 Chron. 21:1; Luke 22:31; John 10:10; Eph. 6:12-18.
 - This passage is the final time the devil speaks in the Bible (see also Gen. 3, Job 1, 2). Every time he speaks, he uses _____ to accuse and provoke – 2 Cor. 2:10-11; Rev. 12:10; 2 Tim. 2:26.
 - Jesus does not use any supernatural powers to fight the devil. He uses the steady responses of fasting, prayer, and the Bible to _____ the trials and temptations. These same weapons will work in our spiritual warfare as well – Jer. 23:29; 1 Tim. 6:12; Eph. 6:12-18; James 4:7.
 - The three temptations the devil uses to seduce Jesus are the main temptations he will use to entice us in this world – 1 John 2:16.
2. **Temptation #1**...He tempts Jesus to fulfill his _____ desires in that moment – v. 3b-4
 - Israel was tested after Egypt similarly...desiring instead to return to Egypt. Jesus quotes God's guidance to Israel, after their failure, to rebuke the temptation of the devil – Ex. 16:1-4; Deut. 8:2-3.
3. **Temptation #2**...He tempts Jesus to be _____ and force God to do something for Him – v. 5-7, 11
 - **Note:** The devil knows and uses Scripture, but often with a **subtil twist** – Ps. 91:11-12; 2 Pet. 3:16.
 - Israel was tested similarly and failed...desiring instead to return to Egypt. Jesus quotes God's guidance to Israel, after their failure, to rebuke the temptation of the devil – Ex. 17:1-4; Deut. 6:16.
 - God's angels indeed fulfilled this Scripture as they came and ministered to Jesus after these temptations, at the right time and when He truly _____ it – v. 11; Heb. 1:13-14, 13:2.

4. **Temptation #3**...He tempts Jesus to covet the powerful things of this world with his _____ – v. 8-10

- Israel was tested after Egypt similarly...desiring to go back and worship the false gods of Egypt instead of God. Jesus quotes God's guidance to Israel, after their failure, to rebuke this final temptation of the devil – Ex. 32:1-4; Deut. 8:19.
- The devil's desire is for us is that we worship him instead of God. He's behind all the dainty meats (Pr. 23:6) and enticements **we see** in this world – Is. 14:13-15; 2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:1-3; Rev. 11:15.