

February 18<sup>th</sup> 2018

**Temptations**  
Matthew 4:1-11

**Introduction:**

- Temptation is a battle against the s\_\_\_\_\_ forces of wickedness, the demonic world (Eph 6:12)
- Satan tempted Jesus when He was most v\_\_\_\_\_.
- 1. Satan knew S\_\_\_\_\_ and so knew what the Father meant by “This is My Son, the Beloved, in whom I am well-pleased”, namely that Jesus would have to suffer for sins as the Christ.
- 2. Satan’s strategy was to tempt Jesus to be another k\_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.
- In this temptation account are some principles we can apply in order to overcome temptation

**L\_\_\_\_\_ out God’s Word (3,4)**

- Satan’s tempting line – *If You are the Son of God, make these stones become bread.*
- 1. Satan is not d\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus’s identity nor is he trying to get Jesus to doubt that He’s God’s Son (that is the Christ).
- 2. Satan is tempting Jesus to use His p\_\_\_\_\_ to satisfy His own hunger. It can be translated as: *Since You are the Son of God.*
  - a. The Jewish people of Jesus’ day believed that the Christ would repeat the miracle of m\_\_\_\_\_ (John 6:30,31)
  - b. Satan was ultimately trying to tempt Jesus to be the kind of Christ that the Jews were expecting and so avoid suffering.
- Jesus’s response – He quotes Deut 8:3
  - 1. The background story of this verse (Exodus 16)
    - a. God promised the people of Israel that He would rain heavenly bread on the land. They called it m\_\_\_\_\_, which means “What is it?”
    - b. God instructed them:
      - 1) To gather one omer for each person in their household (approximately \_\_\_ quarts). But many greedily gathered more, making others have less. However, every household ended up with exactly one omer of manna per person.
      - 2) To bake and eat all of it. But some tried to save some for the next morning and it became full of w\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Jesus was basically saying that He had to live out what the Father had instructed Him, which was to s\_\_\_\_\_ as Christ, the Son of God.
- Living out God’s word

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1. The \_\_\_\_\_ is God's word.
2. Are there words in the Bible that you know that you are NOT living out? Why not?
  - a. Married couples are to love \_\_\_\_\_ each other as Christ loved the church (sacrificially) and are to love \_\_\_\_\_ each other whether deserved or not (Eph 5)
    - 1) Often a person will blame their spouse for their own \_\_\_\_\_ to render love and respect.
    - 2) Satan wants us to legitimize an \_\_\_\_\_ for not living out God's word.
  - b. Our character flaws – demons know them by \_\_\_\_\_ and will constantly tempt you in these areas.
    - 1) You must keep on \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt 26:41), putting your focus on God, not on the temptation.
    - 2) You must \_\_\_\_\_ to God and resist the devil who will then run away from you (James 4:7).
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ person lives out God's word. Don't be foolish.

**L\_\_\_\_\_ all in God's hands (5-7)**

- Satan's tempting line now includes S\_\_\_\_\_ (Ps 91:11,12)
  1. If Jesus jumped off the temple's highest point (over \_\_\_\_\_ feet), the \_\_\_\_\_ would keep Him from injury.
  2. Again Satan is tempting Jesus to use His position as the Son of God to be another \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.
    - a. The Jews of Jesus' day demanded that Jesus prove that He was the Son of God by giving them a \_\_\_\_\_ from heaven (Matt 12:38) – the miracles of healing were not enough.
    - b. This temptation was to do meet the expectation of the people's idea of the Christ and so avoid \_\_\_\_\_.
- Jesus's response – He quotes Deut 6:16
  1. The background story of this verse (Ex 17)
    - a. The people were extremely \_\_\_\_\_ after a long journey.
    - b. They threatened to remove \_\_\_\_\_ and set up another leader if he would not give them water.
    - c. Moses prayed that God provide water, which God did. But God called this \_\_\_\_\_ Him.
  2. Testing God
    - a. Definition – creating a situation in order to \_\_\_\_\_ God to act.

b. By jumping off the temple, Jesus would be testing God. He was not going to be this kind of Christ, but the kind that would s\_\_\_\_\_.

- Many of us test God in the area of f\_\_\_\_\_
  1. God promises that He will provide for all our n\_\_\_\_\_ (Phil 4:19; Matt 6:33)
  2. God owns everything (Ps 24:1) and therefore has given us His money to m\_\_\_\_\_ (Ps 24:1)
  3. We test God when we put our w\_\_\_\_\_ above our needs.
  4. We test God when our financial picture does NOT reflect that we are s\_\_\_\_\_ God's kingdom first.
  5. Jesus said in Luke 16:11 – if you have not been faithful in the use of worldly money, who will entrust you with the t\_\_\_\_\_ riches?

**L\_\_\_\_\_ God fully (8-10)**

- Satan knew that Psalm 2:7 (“You are My Son”) referred to the Christ who would rule all the n\_\_\_\_\_ of the world
  1. Satan tempting line
    - a. He shows Jesus (probably a vision) all the kingdoms of the world and the g\_\_\_\_\_ that accompanies ruling them.
    - b. He tells Jesus that he would make Him ruler right n\_\_\_\_\_ (God must have given Satan this power, otherwise this would not have been a temptation) and so avoid suffering.
    - c. Satan promises to fulfill this promise if He would fall down and w\_\_\_\_\_ him.
  2. Jesus's responds by quoting Deut 6:13 – He would not switch allegiance, but would s\_\_\_\_\_ the Father by fulfilling His role of suffering.
- As soon as you accept Christ, you are called into a lifetime of s\_\_\_\_\_ the Lord. To worship and serve Him means:
  1. You must be w\_\_\_\_\_ to sacrifice anything and everything for Him (family, finances, job, possessions, etc – remember Abraham's call to offer Isaac?)
  2. Demonic forces try to get us to l\_\_\_\_\_ someone or something more than God. – What competes for your love of God?
    - a. Combat this temptation by putting Jesus as the center of every a\_\_\_\_\_ of your life (job, family, leisure, finances, church,
    - b. Reflect your love relationship to the Lord IN every area of your life.