

Matthew 4

The Temptation of Jesus



The Setting

- **“Then”—after his baptism**
- **Led by the Spirit—for purpose of**
- **To be tempted by the devil**
- **Fasting 40 days 40 nights-
hungry—desert, inhospitable**
- **The “tempter” came to him**
- **Matt. 6:13; 18:7; 26:41**
- **1 Thess. 3:5**

Three Purposes of the Temptations

- **Recalls Israel's testing in the wilderness**
- **Jesus provides a model for testing**
- **Understanding of Jesus' messiahship against devil's schemes**



First Temptation

- **Speak, that these stones might become loaves of bread**
- **Hook—Jesus was hungry**
- **Devil invites Jesus to use his sonship for personal reasons. (insight into Tempter's view of power)**
- **May also be the idea of being wrong simply because it came from Satan**



First Temptation

- **Jesus' response—**"It is written..."
- **He quotes from Deuteronomy 8:3.**
- **Redefines "bread" in terms of what is most essential**
- **Revelation—every word that comes from the mouth of God**
- **Personal, divine source—provides what we need the most.**

Second Temptation

- Highest point of the temple
- Throw yourself down
- Satan quotes Psalm 91:11, 12
- Jesus responds with Deuteronomy 6:16



Third Temptation



- **Again, the devil (slanderer, accuser)**
- **Very high mountain—kingdoms**
- **Their splendor**
- **All this I will give you—ironic!**
- **Falling down, prostrate and kiss the ground toward me**



Jesus response to 3rd

- **Go away, depart, be gone!**
- **Σατανᾶ--Satan—adversary**
- **For it is written...it stands written**
- **Bow down (worship)only to God**
- **Serve him (Matthew will give insights along the way regarding worship and serve God)**
- **Devil leaves; angels attended him**

Lessons to take away

- **Insights into the devil with 3 names:**
 - Devil—accuser, slanderer**
 - Tempter—one who tempts**
 - Satan--adversary**
- **Time of testing following baptism**
- **Use of Scripture in temptation...its nature**
 - it stands written**
- **Twisting of Scripture**
- **Nature of what tempts us**
- **Jesus and the Spirit in ministry**
- **Angels in Matthew**

