The Temptation of Jesus

Ken Chapman · Matthew 4:1–11

INTRODUCTION

- As Christians, we need to not be naive.
- I believe one of Satan's greatest weapons against New Testament Christians is our naivete.
- We need to have our eyes wide open and be fully cognizant and aware of what we face every day of our lives.

1 Satan Tempting Jesus to Prove It

Matthew 4:1–11; Hebrews 2:17–18; Psalm 91

- Heaven, God Himself had declared him to be the Son of God, and Satan is now tempting Jesus to prove it.
- What made this a temptation and a temptation to sin is that Satan was tempting Jesus to be unlike us.
- Just because someone can quote Scripture and seem to be godly and pious and righteous doesn't mean that they're necessarily leading us down the pathway of righteousness.
- Satan correctly quoted the scripture from Psalm 91, but he incorrectly applied it.
- I'm going to offer you a shortcut. I'm going to give you the glory in the kingdoms, but without the suffering of the cross.

2 All Three Times Jesus Quotes Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy 8:3–5; Deuteronomy 6:16; Deuteronomy 6:13

- Jesus had just spent 40 days in the wilderness and is going to be tempted. Israel had spent 40 years in the wilderness and is going to be tempted.
- Man shall not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. God will provide.
- God's going to let us suffer to chasten us, to discipline us for our own good.
- You shall not tempt the Lord your God as you tempted him in Masa.
- God and God alone, by his sovereign right, has the power to decide what type of God he is going to be.
- No matter how glitzy, no matter how glamorous and enticing the temptation might be, I'm going to serve God.

3 Lust of the Flesh, Eyes, and Pride of Life

1 John 2:15–16

- That's really what temptation is. It's making a choice.
- Do not love the world, nor the things in the world.
- The three temptations of Jesus kind of align themselves to the first temptations to sin and align themselves to the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

- Eve saw that was good for food. Jesus was tempted to turn stones to bread, which would have been good for food.
- And Jesus was tempted to see all the world's kingdoms. What a sight that must have been.
- All of these temptations were efforts and attempts by Satan to get Jesus to compromise his mission.

4 How Jesus Was Able to Resist Temptation

- First of all, he was determined to do God's will.
- Secondly, he chose not to sin.
- It wouldn't be called temptation if it wasn't tough. But it's still a choice, choosing not to sin.
- He was also able to properly understand and apply scripture. It's not enough to be able to quote it.
- Know your enemy. Know your battlefield. And know how to answer temptation and how to choose God.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Would you give your life to Christ, dedicated to win this battle in this war?**

MY NOTES