

Matthew 4:1-11  
Temptation

Intro v1-2

The True Son will succeed where Israel/ Adam failed.

**1. Trusting the Father to provide, obeying His will NOT your desires v3-4**

Temptation - Would the Son trust the Father to provide for his needs or use His own powers to satisfy them?

Jesus responds: *Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God - Deut 8:3*

- God tested Israel through hunger to reveal their hearts - and need of Him
- Bread is important but there is something even more important

Obeying the will of the Father ( Jn 4:34; Matt 27:40-41)

-Humans flourish when we believe God's word about what we need and submit to His Fatherly provision

Devil often tempts us through our God-given appetites (food, sex, worship)

Trust our Father to provide, obeying His will

**2. Believing Your Father's words not testing His care v5-7**

Temptation : Tempts Jesus to test His Sonship against the Father's pledge to protect

Satan quotes - Ps 91 words written to believers, words of protection and care

- Jesus responds: *Do not test the Lord... (Deut 6:16)*

Exodus 17 - People tested the Lord's presence, protection

- Jesus believed the truth of Psalm 91, knew His father love, care and so had no reason to test, or doubt it!

- Devil will tempt us to doubt God's care and test it BUT

Faith believes what the Father says, that he loves you and accepts you, that He is watching over you and has given you life.

### **3. Worship the Lord your God alone, serving Him Not self v8-11**

Temptation: Short cut to inheritance, to being King avoiding suffering (God's purposes/plan)

Jesus responds: *Away from me Satan, for it is written: Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only - Deut 6:13*

- Israelites - if they worship God alone, life would go well, land flourish, peace from enemies  
- they rejected, choosing to worship the gods of the nations - seemingly easier for them
- Not the True Son though - He worships God alone, serving Him Only even to death on a cross.
- Devil will tempt us to rule our own kingdoms, live for the now, without revealing the price - worship of him and separation from the Father for ever.

### **4. When tempted - Run to Jesus**

Battle on!

James 4:7, humble yourself, submitting yourself to God

Hebrews 4:15 Jesus tempted in every way and sympathizes with us.

Our temptation, testing evokes his compassion, his help, he delights to give us grace and mercy in our time of need