

February 5, 2017

The Messiah Tested

Matthew 4:1-11

- The announcement of God's Messiah/ King (ch.1-2)
- The presentation of God's Messiah/ King (ch.3)
- **The confrontation of God's Messiah/ King (ch.4:1-11)**
- The proclamation of God's Messiah/ King (ch.4-25)
- The immolation of God's Messiah/ King (ch.26-27)
- The vindication of God's Messiah/ King (ch. 28)

The Leading of the Spirit

- After being anointed by the Spirit to fulfill His Adamic purpose, the Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan.

- As a result of Adam's sin (**Gen. 2:17**), all humanity came under the curse of DEATH.

***Rom 5:12** Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and DEATH through sin, and so DEATH spread to all men because all sinned [in Adam]...*

- For God's people to be freed from the curse of DEATH, Divine Justice demanded that another Man Who was innocent and obedient, pay the penalty God's wrath on behalf of God's people.

***Rom 5:19** For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous...*

- As all humanity died in Adam, for God's people to LIVE, they would be represented in the Son of God Who would take to Himself a Human body and Soul in order to be tempted in His Humanity on the behalf of His people who would be in Him.

1 Cor 15:22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive [the reversal of the curse]...

Gal. 2:20 I have been crucified with [in company with] Christ...

- Jesus entered the wilderness to face Satan as God's last Adam, to obey where Adam disobeyed, to be qualified to pay the full penalty of Adam's sin on behalf of God's people at the cross.

"To Be Tempted by the Devil"

- "Tempted" = 1) to test for refining 2) to entice to do wrong.
 - When used for testing, the word is translated *test*.

1 Peter 1:7 ...the tested genuineness of your faith — more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire — may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ

- When Satan is the subject it has to do with tempting, enticing to sin.

1 Cor. 10:13 ...God will not let you be tempted [enticed] beyond your ability...

God is never the Author of temptation: **James 1:13**

- Jesus' 40 days of testing echoes Israel's 40 years in the Wilderness. This period was to prove that Jesus is God's genuine obedient Son, the test that Israel failed (**Ex.32:4**).
- Satan does not deny Jesus' identity, but seeks to entice Jesus to use His power for His personal benefit rather than God's.
- Jesus foils the arrow of temptation by quoting Scripture.

***Deut. 8:3** ...man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.*

- Satan was asking Jesus to make sure He was God's Son by a personal test (**v.5-6**) Jesus had already heard the Father's testify that He was His believe Son (**3:17**) but now Satan tempts Jesus to verify what He had heard.
- Jesus once again goes to the Scriptures for His defense (**v. 7**).

Deut. 6:16

- Satan's true motive behind every temptation was that Jesus should forsake the true worship of God to worship him.

***Ex. 20:3** You shall not have any other gods before Me...*