

# When Temptation Seduces



Matthew 4:1-11 (NLT)

Then Jesus was led out into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to be tempted there by the Devil. For forty days and forty nights he ate nothing and became very hungry. Then the Devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, change these stones into loaves of bread." But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People need more than bread for their life; they must feed on every word of God.'"

Then the Devil took him to Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, 'He orders his angels to protect you. And they will hold you with their hands to keep you from striking your foot on a stone.'" Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'Do not test the Lord your God.'"

Next the Devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him the nations of the world and all their glory. "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will only kneel down and worship me." "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God; serve only him.'"

Then the Devil went away, and angels came and cared for Jesus.

## 1. Realize God Uses Temptation To

"Then Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**...was **led by the Spirit** to go out into the wilderness, where the **devil tempted** him for forty days." (Luke 4:1)  
"the Holy Spirit **compelled** Jesus to go into the wilderness." (Mark 1:12)

## 2. Recognize When I'm Dangerously

"One day Jesus...**was baptized** by John in the Jordan River. **Immediately** the Holy Spirit **compelled** Jesus to go into the **wilderness**." (Mark 1:9,12)  
"For forty days and forty nights he **ate nothing**" (2)

## 3. Refuse To Be

"The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted,

he will show you a way out so that you can endure." (1 Cor. 10:13)

## 4. Request

"Since (Jesus) himself has gone through suffering and temptation, he is able to **help us when we are being tempted**." (Heb 2:18); "(He) understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same temptations we do, **yet he did not sin**. So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will **find grace to help us**." (Heb. 4:15-16)

## 5. Resist With Truth

Can I trust God's \_\_\_\_\_ when I have needs?

"The Devil, playing on his hunger, gave the first test: "...command this stone to turn into a loaf of bread." (Luke 4:3 Msg)

Can I trust God's \_\_\_\_\_ when I am impatient?

"If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, 'He orders his angels to protect you.'" (6)

Can I trust God's \_\_\_\_\_ when I am suffering?

"(Satan) showed him the nations of the world and all their glory. 'I will give it all to you,' he said, 'if you will only kneel down and worship me.'" (8,9)

"But Jesus told him, 'No! The Scriptures say...' (4,7,10)

## 6. Reveal

"(Devil) said, 'If you are God's Son, jump. **It's written, isn't it**, that he has placed you in the care of angels to protect you; they will catch you...?' 'Yes,' said Jesus, 'and it's also written, **Don't you dare tempt the Lord your God**.'" (Luke 4:9-12 Msg)

"**If you stumble**, they'll catch you...**If you'll hold on to me** for dear life... I'll give you the best of care **if you'll only get to know and trust me**" (Psalm 91:12,14 Msg)

"Get out of here, Satan,' Jesus told him." (10)

## 7. Refocus

"(Jesus) became **very hungry**. Then the Devil came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, change these stones into **loaves of bread**.'" (2,3)

"Temptation comes from the **lure of our own evil desires**." (James 1:14)

"Worship the Lord your God and only him. Serve him with absolute single-heartedness" (10 Msg)

## 8. Reach For The

"and angels came and cared for Jesus." (11)

"God **blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation**." (James 1:12)