
Jesus--Matthew 4:1-11; John 1:29-51

Jesus Tempted; Makes His First Disciples

I. Additional Scriptures...

1. Three forty-day fasts are mentioned in Scripture: Exodus 34:27-28; 1 Kings 19:8; Matthew 4:2.
2. The three Scripture answers of our Lord: Deuteronomy 8:3; 6:16; and 6:13,14.
3. Luke 4:13.
4. The LAMB OF GOD (cf., Ex 12:3-5).

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: The Period of the Christ.

III. Summary.

The first eleven verses of Matthew tell of Satan tempting Jesus after He had fasted for 40 days. Satan tempted Jesus to turn bread to stones; to jump off of the pinnacle of the temple; and to bow down and worship him. To each of these temptations, Jesus rejected the temptation with a reply from Scripture. In Luke's account (Lk 4:13) it is stated that Satan departed from Him for a season.

In the last part of John 2, John sees Jesus and addresses Him as the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world, clearly an allusion to the Passover Lamb of Exodus 12. This is really the heart of the gospel--the good news that Jesus has come to take away the sin of the world! John explains his work in relation to that of Jesus and tells of how he came to know who Jesus was. The next day John once again uses this title and two of his disciples were present.

The two disciples asked Jesus where He lived and Jesus told them, "Come and see." One of these disciples was Andrew, who went and found his brother Peter and told him he had found the Messiah, bringing him to Jesus. Jesus gave a new name to Simon Peter, that of CEPHAS, which means a stone.

Philip is asked to follow Jesus and Philip goes and finds Nathanael, telling him he had found the One whom Moses wrote about. Nathanael was the one who asked the question: "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" When Jesus saw Nathanael coming he said about him, "Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael wondered how Jesus knew anything about him and Jesus told him about seeing him under a fig tree. Impressed by such supernatural knowledge, Nathanael acknowledged that Jesus was the Son of God and King of Israel. Jesus promised Nathanael he would see greater things.

IV. Outline.

1. Satan tempts Jesus in three different ways and Jesus does not yield to them (Mt 4:1-11).
2. John introduces Jesus and the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world (Jn 1:29).
3. John explains the purpose of his work in connection with Jesus (Jn 1:30-31).
4. There was to be a special sign to aid John in recognizing Jesus (Jn 1:32-33).
5. John received that sign and is now bearing record that He is the Son of God (Jn 1:34-36).

6. Andrew spent time with Jesus and then brought his brother Peter to Jesus (Jn 1:37-41).
7. Jesus gives a new name to Peter (Jn 1:42).
8. Philip is told to follow Jesus and he goes and gets Nathanael (Jn 1:43-45).
9. Nathanael asks, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" (Jn 1:46).
10. Jesus pays a great compliment to Nathanael and Nathanael recognizes Jesus as the Son of God (Jn 1:47-49).
11. Jesus promises Nathanael he will see greater things (Jn 1:50-51).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ Jesus had seen Nathanael under the olive tree.
02. _____ Even though Jesus had been without food for 40 days, He was not hungry.
03. _____ Philip lived in the same city as Peter.
04. _____ Satan asked Jesus to fall down and worship him.
05. _____ John made a mental mistake when he said that Jesus was before him, since John was born 6 months before Jesus.

Who Am I? Who Said It? Who Did It?

06. _____ Said, "Come and see." (2 answers).
07. _____ Quoted Scripture (2 answers).
08. _____ An Israelite without any guile.
09. _____ Saw and bore record that this is the Son of God.
10. _____ Jesus asked him, "What seek ye."

Fill in the Blanks

11. "Behold the _____ of God which taketh away the _____ of the _____."
12. Luke ____:13 "And when the devil had ended all the _____, he departed from him for a _____."
13. _____ 12:5 "Your _____ shall be without _____, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats."
14. After meeting Jesus, the FIRST thing Andrew did was to find _____
15. It is said of Elijah that... 1 _____ 19:8 "And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the _____ of that meat _____ days and _____ nights unto Horeb the mount of God."

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be given on next week's handout

ANSWERS to Lesson 01-26... [01--False, Mt 2:13; 02--True, Lk 2:48; 03--True, Mt 2:16; 04--False, Lk 2:41; 05--True, Mt 2:23; 06--b, Mt 2:14; 07--c, Mt 2:18; 08--c, Mt 2:22; 09--a, Lk 2:44; 10--e, Lk 2:52; 11--sayings, heart, Lk 2:51; 12--doctors, Lk 2:46; 13--1, son, Egypt; 14--53, despised, rejected, grief; 15--23, three.]

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. ...led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted (Mt 4:1). The temptation would be the word of the devil. The temptation was consistent with the will of God. Jesus was not cornered by the devil, rather there was purpose behind it. This would be a genuine spiritual battle and our Lord was successful in it, providing a wonderful example for us (cf., James 4:7).

2. **And when the tempter came...** (Mt 4:3). The previous verse tells us that one of the physical needs of Jesus was stirred up when He voluntarily deprived Himself of food for 40 days and nights. This tells us something about Satan's normal time of attack. When we are the most vulnerable and weak, this will be considered by Satan to be an open door and the best time to attack. Satan knew with Whom he was dealing and he would be using his very best strategies in tempting the Lord. Of course with Jesus, this was a deliberate attempt to bring Satan out (cf., verse 1). Let us think on this fact for our own battle with Satan. Let us seek to be STRONG and prepared to do battle with the tempter. One of the best ways of maintaining our strength is suggested in Hebrews 10:24-25. One of the best ways to challenge Satan to come after us is to become weak by avoiding the instruction to assemble.
3. **...Man shall not live by bread alone...** (Mt 4:4). This answer from the Lord is very instructive. He is telling Satan that there is a worse thing than to have the physical pangs of hunger in the stomach. That would be to disobey the word of God. There is a spiritual aspect to our lives and we must not allow physical desires to cause us to yield to temptation.
4. **...Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God** (Mt 4:7). For Jesus to have yielded to this temptation would have demonstrated a lack of trust in the word of God.
5. **...Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve...** (Mt 4:10). Jesus handled this temptation well--for us there are many ways of substituting some one or some thing for God and to do so is a tremendous mistake. John 4:24 teaches us that our worship to God must be: (1) toward the right object--GOD; (2) with the right attitude--IN SPIRIT; and (3) with the right authority--IN TRUTH (cf., Jn 17:17).
6. **...the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world...** (Jn 1:29). John's title for Jesus is very interesting. The Passover Lamb was a yearly reminder of the protection God provided to the children of Israel from the Destroyer of the tenth plague during the Egyptian Bondage Period. Houses which had the blood of the lamb sprinkled on the doorposts were passed over by the "death angel." Our own *spiritual death* is avoided in and through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ. What a marvelous gift God gave (Jn 3:16).
7. **...for he was before me...** (Jn 1:30; cf., 1:1). John's statement seems to contradict the actual facts unless we understand the deity of Jesus. Those religious groups that deny the deity of Jesus (e.g., Jehovah's Witnesses, et.al.), need to study their Bibles more carefully.
8. **...Come and see...** (Jn 1:39). Jesus' response to the inquiry of two of John's disciples is a friendly greeting. This is also a challenge we should be offering to our friends and neighbors who indicate an interest in what the churches of Christ are like. Let people come and see if the worship and work we do is in accord with the doctrine of Christ; let them compare what they see with the word of God (Col 3:17; 1 Jn 4:1).
9. **He first findeth his own brother Simon...** (Jn 1:41). What a beautiful example is Andrew. He met Jesus and his first action following that was to tell others. What if we all did the same.
10. **...Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?...** (Jn 1:46). Here is an indicator of how the Jews felt about this little insignificant place.
11. **...Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!** (Jn 1:47). The way Jesus states this, it seems certain that, in His experience, this was an unusual quality among the Jews. There was no deceit or trickery in his character. Here was an honest truth-seeker and Jesus commends him highly for it. Let us be like Nathanael!

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

Q B A Z X S W E D C V F R T G B Y A H N
 N H E Y U J M I K H E A V E N L O B P L
 I K M H J U Y Y H N T G B R F V E O D C
 W S X C O D E R F V B G T Y H N U D J M
 O L K I U L J M N H Y T G B D O V E B G
 T G B R F V D L A M B R F V E D C W S X
 Q A Z X S W E D C V O T G B Y H T W O D
 Y H D N M J U I K O F G O D L P O L I I
 I K E M Y H N T G B R F V T E D C W S S
 Q A S Z X S W E D C R F A V B G T Y H C
 N M C U J I K L O P U K N H Y T G B R I
 R F E V E T D C W S E X Q A Z W S X C P
 R F N F I V B T G T Y H N U J M I K O L
 O L D R I K U J H M Y H N T G B R F V E
 E D I C W S X Q A W A Y A Z W S X C E S
 E P N D C R F V T G B S Y H W A L K E D
 S Y G H N U J M I K L I O P I W O R L D
 U J M T G B R F V E D N C W E S X Q A Z
 W S X C E D V F R T G O F H B N Y H U J
 T G B N H Y U J M I K L T O P U J Y H N

[The words below come from the first section of the reading from John of this lesson.
See if you can find all of the words above.]

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|----------------|---------------|
| 01. behold | 02. Lamb |
| 03. of | 04. God |
| 05. taketh | 06. away |
| 07. sin | 08. the |
| 09. world | 10. Spirit |
| 11. descending | 12. heaven |
| 13. dove | 14. abode |
| 15. two | 16. disciples |
| 17. walked | |