

# Matthew 4:1-11

## The Temptation of Jesus

- ◆ Then the Spirit led Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the Devil. After spending forty days and nights without food, Jesus was hungry. Then the Devil came to him and said, “If you are God's Son, order these stones to turn into bread.” But Jesus answered, “The scripture says, ‘Human beings cannot live on bread alone, but need every word that God speaks.’” Then the Devil took Jesus to Jerusalem, the Holy City, set him on the highest point of the Temple, and said to him, “If you are God's Son, throw yourself down, for the scripture says, ‘God will give orders to his angels about you; they will hold you up with their hands, so that not even your feet will be hurt on the stones.’” Jesus answered, “But the scripture also says, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” Then the Devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in all their greatness. “All this I will give you,” the Devil said, “if you kneel down and worship me.” Then Jesus answered, “Go away, Satan! The scripture says, ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!’” Then the Devil left Jesus; and angels came and helped him.
- ◆ In these verses we see the strategies of the devil and how they they can be overcome. We also see the results of endurance and overcoming.
- ◆ The devil will use our situation againsts us; that is our desperation, our joy, our love, our anger, our friends and family, etc. He will twist things with the aim to make us sin. In this case he used Jesus hunger, he also used Jesus title as the son of God and lastly he used the human nature that craves for fame and wealth.
- ◆ Jesus overcame all these temptations by quoting the word. The word is our sword and we should use it always to overcome. How then can we use the word if we're not familiar to it? Let's meditate upon the word of God day in and day out so that we become familiar with it and we can use it to overcome the plots of the devil. The power is in our hands. We become what we constantly do, hence, let's constantly study the word of God and it will transform us with the renewal of the mind.
- ◆ After Jesus had overcome, the angels came to help him. God is never far from us, he is waiting and watching, he is waiting for us to overcome. The challenges we face are never beyond our ability to overcome, we can overcome them but it takes will and effort. We should overcome, if we fall we should rise and try again.