

A wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, a dirt road with tire tracks leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. The terrain is sandy and sparsely covered with small, dry bushes. In the background, a range of rugged, brown mountains stretches across the horizon under a pale, overcast sky. The overall mood is desolate and expansive.

The Gospel of Matthew

WHY DID THE KING COME BUT NOT THE KINGDOM?

Outline to the book of Matthew:

I. The King Has Come 1:1-13:53

1. *The Incarnation and the preparation of the King 1:1 – 4:11*
2. *The Declaration of the Principles of the King 4:12 – 7:29*
3. *The Manifestation of the King 8:1 – 11:1*
4. *The Opposition to the King 11:2 – 13:53*

II. The Kingdom Has Not 13:54-28:20

5. *The Reaction of the King, 13:54 – 19:2*
6. *The Formal Presentation and Rejection of the King, 19:3 – 25:46*
7. *The Crucifixion and the Resurrection of the King, 26:1 – 28:20*

***Subpoints follow Stanley Toussaint's seven main divisions outlined in his commentary.

I. THE KING HAS COME 1:1 – 13:53

The Preparation of the King 3:1-4:11

(Matthew 4:5-11)

“The Wilderness Temptations”

Outline:

1. Temptation #1 vv. 1-4
2. Temptation #2 vv. 5-7
3. Temptation #3 vv. 8-11

Summary/Application:

1- Temptation #1 vv. 1-4

- This verse in context speaks of the testing that the Israelites underwent that had a two-fold purpose. First, to humble them. Second, to remember God and to follow Him only.
- Jesus followed this same type of testing with a 40 day fast (1 day for every year?) to learn the same lesson, but also to fulfill “He is able to sympathize with our weakness.”
- For Jesus to turn the rocks into bread would nullify the test and to also be led by the flesh rather than God. (cf. Esau)

Summary/Application:

- Following the baptism, Jesus was led by and filled by the Holy Spirit.
- The eternal Son became incarnate and became fully man. Yet, He remained fully God.
- For the time of His earthly ministry Jesus subjected His Divine attributes to the other persons of the Godhead. He set aside His individual use of His Divine attributes (Kenosis).
- Cf. Philippians 2:5-11 ... Do we have this mind in us?
- Are we Scripturally grounded?
- Do we resist temptation? Cf. 1 Corinthians 10:13

Outline:

1. Temptation #1 vv. 1-4
2. Temptation #2 vv. 5-7
3. Temptation #3 vv. 8-11

2- Temptation #2 vv. 5-7

Observations:

- The setting – v. 5

- “Then the devil took Him up into the holy city,”
- “set Him on the pinnacle of the temple,”

- The temptation – v. 6

- “and said to Him, ‘If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written:’” (cf. Psalm 91:11-12)
 - 1) “He shall give His angels charge over you,”
 - 2) “and, In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.”

2- Temptation #2 vv. 5-7

Observations:

- The setting – v. 5
- The temptation – v. 6
- The resistance – v. 7
 - “Jesus said to him,”
 - “It is written again, ‘You shall not tempt the LORD your God.’” (Deut. 6:16)

The Context of Deuteronomy 6:

- The obligation to keep the law in the land and fear the Lord so to be blessed vv. 1-3
- The generational obligation vv. 4-9
- The experience of Divine covenantal blessings vv. 10-11
- The warning to not forget vv. 12-16
 - Fear the Lord vv. 12-13
 - Avoid idolatry vv. 14-16
 - “You shall not test the LORD your God as you tempted Him in Massah” (cf. Exodus 17:1-7)
- Preserving the Divine covenantal blessings vv. 17-25

Summary/Application:

2- Temptation #2 vv. 5-7

- For the second time Jesus responds from the book of Deuteronomy. I think this was what he was contemplating in the wilderness for forty days.
- The book of Deuteronomy is the conditional land covenant that God made with Israel. It determines whether or not a generation will live and be blessed in the land.

Summary/Application:

2- Temptation #2 vv. 5-7

- Jesus was preparing for His earthly ministry and kingdom offer to that generation. He was contemplating this conditional covenant to prepare for calling Israel to repentance under this covenant's obligation to the law, that has been subverted by the religious leaders in Israel. (which also PERFECTLY explains the Sermon on the Mount).
- Jesus “passed” this test by asserting that the Jews must trust and depend on God and not put Him to the test for anything.

Outline:

1. Temptation #1 vv. 1-4
2. Temptation #2 vv. 5-7
3. Temptation #3 vv. 8-11

3- Temptation #3 vv. 8-11

Observations:

- The setting – v. 8
 - “Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain,”
 - “and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.”

3- Temptation #3 vv. 8-11

Observations:

- The setting – v. 8
- The temptation – v. 9
 - “And he said to Him, ‘All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.’”
 - The Messiah is promised Worldwide Dominion (cf. Psalm 2)
 - Why would Jesus be tempted by this?
 - Perhaps it is an alternative to the cross?
 - Adamic Dominion was forfeit to Satan.
 - This is why Satan is called “the god of this world.”

3- Temptation #3 vv. 8-11

Observations:

- The setting – v. 8
- The temptation – v. 9
- The resistance – v. 10
 - “Then Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, Satan! For it is written,’”
 - “You shall worship the LORD your God and Him only you shall serve.” (Deut. 6:13; 10:20)

The Context of Deuteronomy 10:

- The second pair of tablets are written and stored in the Ark vv. 1-11
- Moses fasted 40 days and 40 nights v. 10 (cf. Ex. 34:28)
- The Journey to land begins v. 11
- Worship and serve only God vv. 12-22

3- Temptation #3 vv. 8-11

Observations:

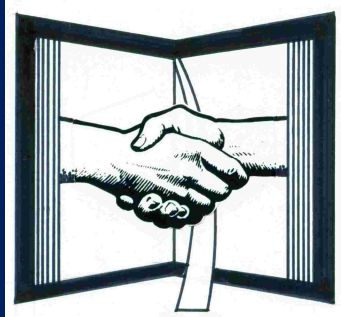
- The setting – v. 8
- The temptation – v. 9
- The resistance – v. 10
- The end – v. 11
 - “Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.”

Summary/Application: 3- Temptation #3 vv. 8-11

- Every time Jesus responded he quoted Deuteronomy. Which shows this covenant was very much on His mind the last 40 days.
- It also shows that at the beginning of His ministry this is His focus.
- Jesus will aim to call the nation to repentance. And will issue a stinging rebuke against the religious leaders in the same way OT prophets did. But this time if Israel repents and comes under their covenant obligations. They will receive the full blessings of the Abrahamic covenant in the Kingdom.

Summary/Application:

- The believer should remain humble before God and be fully devoted to Him. (Deut. 8:3)
- The believer should trust the LORD to provide what they need, and not test His benevolence and lovingkindness. (cf. Deut. 6:16)
- The believer should fear and serve the LORD only and not give into idolatry. (cf. Deut. 10:20)
- This is the context of the Jews and their earthly kingdom. But the application is appropriate for us, since we are heirs of said Kingdom.



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