

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS**  
**MATTHEW 4:1-11**  
**OCTOBER 10, 2018**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. **MATTHEW 4.1:** *“Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness”*
  - a) *“was led.”* Mark’s account is much more emphatic. (Mark 1.12; ekballo)
  - b) *“by the Spirit.”* The Spirit leads us into temptation? (Luke 4.1; 1 Cor. 10.13; Matt. 6.13)
  - c) *“to be tempted”* Continuous action. How was He tempted? (James 1.14; 1 John 2.16)
  - d) *“by the devil.”* Who places temptation in front of us? (1 Pet. 5.8)
2. **MATTHEW 4.2:** *“And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.”* Why did Jesus fast? He was giving all His attention to His circumstance.
3. The temptation of Christ helps us to know how to resist temptation. (cf. 1 Pet. 2.21)

**I. THE FIRST TEMPTATION OF CHRIST**

- A. **MATTHEW 4.3:** *“Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, ‘If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.’”*
  1. The devil is the tempter. Literally, to pierce through. The devil puts us on trial.
  2. **MATTHEW 4.2:** *“If You are the Son of God.”*
    - a) God told the crowd that Jesus was His Son. (Matt. 3.17)
    - b) God told Jesus directly that He was His Son. (Luke 3.22)
  3. **MATTHEW 4.3:** *“Command that these stone become bread.”*
    - a) Jesus was tempted with the object that He desired. (James 1.14)
    - b) Jesus was tempted with the lust of the flesh. (1 John 2.16)
- B. **MATTHEW 4.4:** *“But He answered and said”*
  1. **MATTHEW 4.4:** *“It is written”* Literally, it was written and is still effective today.
  2. **MATTHEW 4.4:** *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.”* Literally, every syllable. (cf. Luke 4.4; Deut. 8.1-3)
    - a) God allowed the children of Israel to hunger to remind them of their priorities.
    - b) In the same way, Jesus hungered, but where was His focus?
    - c) When we are in want, our focus should be in doing the will of God. (Luke 9.23)

**II. CHRISTIANS ARE TO BE LED BY THE SPIRIT**

- A. Analyzing the text. (Matt. 4.4)
  1. The first word in the text is *“man.”* (Ps. 139.13-16; 144.3,4)
  2. The last word in the text is *“God.”* (Ps. 47.1,2; 145.3; 147.5)
  3. The Creator has the right to tell the created what he can and cannot do. (Matt. 4.4)
    - a) *“Man shall not”* God can tell us what we cannot do.
    - b) *“live.”* God has the right to tell us how to live.
    - c) *“by bread alone.”* Our focus in life is not to be only on our physical needs.
    - d) *“but by every word.”* There is a contrast. Our lives are to be governed by every word of God. Not some words. Not the words of man. Every word of God.
- B. Applying the text. (Rom. 8.1ff)
  1. Living according to the word of God is a mindset. (Rom. 8.5; Col. 3.2)
  2. Living according to the word of God has consequences. (Rom. 8.6)
  3. Living according to the word of God pleases God. (Rom. 8.7,8; James 4.4)