

# The Temptation of Jesus...

## Matthew 4:1-11

### Introduction

- Satan attempted to seduce Jesus by appealing to His fleshly desires. But unlike us, Jesus did not succumb to the temptations of Satan.
- Jesus victory over Satan's attacks was a prelude to His final victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil on a hill called Golgotha.
- The first message that seems to jump out at us from this account seems to be a lesson on how to confront the temptations of Satan that we face.
- We learn something right off the bat by looking at two words. The word "devil" and the word "written"
- The real message buried in this story that gives true comfort and hope is that where we fail, Jesus succeeded!

### Part I — The Age Old Battle He Fought for Us...

- The temptations that Satan placed before Jesus are really the same old tried and true temptations used on Adam and Eve and on us.
- Satan really only has one goal—he wants everyone to belong to him. He wants to pull us away from God.

- Three temptations, three old tactics...
  1. Create doubt in what God says.
  2. Challenge our trust in God.
  3. Flat out lies about what he can offer.
- I am ashamed and embarrassed to admit that I fall into Satan's tried and true traps over and over again.

### Part II — The Eternal Victory He Won for Us...

- The Lenten season serves to remind us that the fight is fierce and the warfare long but that our victory has already been won!
- Jesus fought the age old battle with Satan because He willingly humbled Himself for us.
- We are comforted by these words today, not only because Jesus was tempted but because He won.
- Because Jesus won, it changes the way we look at every temptation that comes our way. We now know better than to rely on our own strength, we rely on Jesus and His word!
- God's Word is powerful!

### Conclusion/Review

- God's word is powerful because Jesus was able to deal the devil a death blow with His death and resurrection.
- While we can learn from Jesus' example the real message is that where we have failed, Jesus succeeded!