

A.D. Part 3- The Test

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Matthew 4:1

2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. Matthew 4:2

Satan attacks us when we are vulnerable and not when we are strong.

We let immediate need and emotions drive decisions and Satan counts on it.

38 Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Mark 14:38

3 The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” Matthew 4:3

“Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” Genesis 3:1

“It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” Matthew 4:4

Your spiritual needs are more important than your physical needs.

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 6 “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: “He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.” Matthew 4:5-6

If God answered all of our prayers with a resounding yes and always got us out of our trouble, we would not be lovers of God, we would be lovers of results.

7 Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” Matthew 4:7

The point to our faith is not for God to prove his love and devotion to us, but for us to demonstrate our love and commitment to him.

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” Matthew 4:8

“My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Matthew 26:39

We cannot live out the ways of heaven by following the path of the world.

Satan's price is more than he leads us to believe and he always delivers less than he promises.

“Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’” Matthew 4:10

13 When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. Luke 4:13

Two simple ways help to avoid the temptation:

Know God's word.

Be patient.

11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him. Matthew 4:11

Before God can bless us, He needs to create the godly character in us to properly receive and administer the blessing.