

Handout 1: Matthew Lesson 4

The Temptations of the First and Second Adams Contrasted <i>Do not love the world or the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, sensual lust, enticement for the eyes, and a pretentious life, is not from the Father but is from the world. 1 Jn 1:15-16</i>		
Temptations	The first Adam Genesis 3:1-6	Jesus, the new Adam Matthew 4:1-10
The devil's invitation to rebellion	<i>"Did God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees...?"</i>	<i>The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God ...</i>
Hunger, a desire of the flesh	<i>The woman saw that the tree was good for food</i>	<i>... command that these stones become loaves of bread"</i>
Enticement for the eyes:	<i>pleasing to the eyes, and</i>	<i>the devil... showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence</i>
The pride of a pretentious life (power)	<i>desirable for gaining wisdom</i>	<i>If you are the Son ... throw Yourself down ... He will command his angels concerning you ...</i>
Michal E. Hunt © 2011 (Jesus' temptations are in the order found in Lk 4:1-13)		

Comparisons can also be made between the desert temptation experience of Jesus, the Son of God, and the desert temptations of the Israelites, the sons of God. The test of a true son is his obedience to his father.

Israel	Jesus
Israel is God's "first-born son" from among the nations of the earth (Ex 4:22-23)	Jesus is the Son of God (Mt 3:17)
The Israelites were baptized by passing through the waters of the Red Sea and then, accompanied by God's spirit in the pillar of cloud and fire, they went into the desert (Ex 13:21-22; 14:21-22; 15:22)	After Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River, the Spirit of God led Jesus into the desert (Mt 4:1)
The Israelites were in the desert for 40 years where they suffered from hunger (Ex 16:2-3)	After 40 days and nights in the desert, Jesus was hungry (Mt 4:2)
God tested Israel (Ex 16:4; Dt 8:2)	God allowed Satan to test Jesus (Mt 4:1-11)
The Israelites continually failed their tests of covenant obedience and loyalty, even to the point of worshipping a golden idol (Ex 32:1-6)	Jesus passed His tests. He remained faithful and obedient to God, and He refused to bow down to worship Satan (Mt 4:10)
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Handout 2: Matthew Lesson 4

In Scripture the number 40 signifies testing and consecration:

- 40 day epic periods during the great flood ([Gen 7:4](#), [12](#), [17](#), [8:6](#))
- 40 years was the age of Isaac when he married Rebekah ([Gen 25:20](#))
- 40 years of Moses in Egypt (do the math, see Ex 7:7; Dt 34:7; Acts 7:30)
- 40 years of Moses in Midian before his return to Egypt (Acts 7:30)
- 40 years from the Exodus until Moses' death (Dt 1:3; 34:7)
- 40 years Israel ate manna ([Ex 16:35](#); [Dt 29:5](#))
- 40 days Moses was on the Mountain to receive the Law of the Sinai Covenant ([Ex 24:18](#))
- 40 days the children of Israel were tested while Moses was on the mountain (Ex 32:1)
- 40 days Moses was on the Mountain after the golden calf. ([Ex 34:28](#))
- 40 days after his birth a male child of Israel was dedicated to God at the Sanctuary (Lev 12:1-4)
- 40 days the Israelite spies reconnoitered the land of Canaan (Num 13:25)
- 40 years was Caleb's age when Moses sent him to reconnoiter Canaan ([Josh 14:7](#))
- 40 years that Israel spent in the wilderness before they camped by the Jordan River (Num 14:33; Dt 1:1-3; 8:2)
- 40 years from the giving of the Law at Sinai to the conquest of the Promised land ([Josh 5:6](#))
- 40 year intervals of peace in the age of the Judges (Judg 3:11; 5:31; 8:28)
- 40 years Eli judged Israel ([1 Sam 4:18](#))
- 40 years of war between Israel and the Philistines
- 40 years David ruled as King of Israel ([2 Sam 5:5](#); [1 Chr 29:26-27](#))
- 40 years of Solomon ruled Israel. ([2 Chr 9:30](#))
- 40 days Jonah was in the Assyrian city of Nineveh ([Jonah 3:4](#))
- 40 years Josiah ruled Judah (2 Kng 12:2)
- 40 days Ezekiel lay on his right side to symbolize the 40 years of Judah's transgressions (Ez 4:6)
- 40 days Jesus fasted in the wilderness before His temptation (Mt 4:2; Mk 1:13; Lk 4:2)
- 40 days Jesus taught His disciples after the Resurrection. On the 40th day He ascended to the Father ([Acts 1:3](#))

In Jesus' contest with Satan, the devil addresses Jesus three times, quoting Scripture once from Psalm 91:10-12 and using the formula statement "it is written" (verse 6). In reply Jesus quotes Scripture three times from Deuteronomy 8:3, 6:16 and 6:13, using the formula "it is written" twice in verses 4 and 7.

- Test #1: **Jesus** was hungry, but He rebuked Satan: *4He said in reply, "It is written: 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God' (Dt 8:3).*
- Test #2: **Satan**: *6b For it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you: and 'with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone'" (Ps 91:10-12).*
Jesus: *7 Jesus answered him, 'Again, 'You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test'" (Dt 6:16).*
- Test #3: **Jesus**: *10 At this, Jesus said to him, "Get away, Satan! It is written: 'The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve'" (Dt 6:13).*

Handout 3: Matthew Lesson 4

“Son of God” was a title that was also assigned to:

- Angels of the heavenly host
- The children of Israel and their leaders
- King Solomon and the Davidic kings of Judah
- Righteous believers.

Jesus describes His rank of divine sonship as different the others who bore the title previously in salvation history:

- Jesus calls God “My Father;” it is a claim not made previously by those who bore the title (Mt 7:21).
- Jesus claims Psalm 110:1 proves that the Messiah is more than David’s son; He is a divine son and David’s Lord (Mt 22:42-36).
- He is ranked above the angels (Mt 4:11; Mk 1:13).
- He claims to have God for His Father in an intimate way that others can not claim (Jn 10:15, 29-30; 14:9-10, 20; 16:15).

In the Temptation, all Jesus’ quotes from Scripture are from passages in Deuteronomy chapters 6 and 8 where Moses recalls Israel’s testing in the desert journey from Egypt to Mt Sinai. Satan gave Jesus three similar tests:

Israel	Jesus
1. Israel was tested when the people complained of hunger; God gave them manna (Ex 16:3, 4)	Jesus was hungry when Satan challenged Him to make bread out of stones (Mt 3:2-3)
2. Israel put God to the test at Massah and Meribah to prove God was with them (Ex 17:7)	Jesus refused to put God to the test when Satan challenged Him to prove He was the Son of God (Mt 3:6)
3. Israel yielded to the temptation to commit idolatry in the sin of the Golden Calf (Ex 32:1-6)	Jesus refused to bow down and worship Satan (Mt 3:9)
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Matthew writes that Jesus’ Galilean ministry fulfilled the prophecy of that the Messiah’s future restoration of Israel will begin in the Galilee (Is 9:1). In Christian liturgy and tradition, the rest of that passage (verses 5-6) is used to refer to Jesus Christ. Five attributes of the “son” are given in verse 5 of Isaiah’s prophecy, all of which are fulfilled in Jesus:

1. “Upon his shoulder dominion rests”: Jesus’ authority comes from God
2. “Wonder-Counselor”: Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus’ wisdom and judgment are beyond the ordinary gifts of other men
3. “God-Hero”: Jesus is a defender of His people, like God Himself
4. “Father-Forever”: Jesus is devoted to His people like a parent loves his children
5. “Prince of Peace”: Jesus came to establish the peace of God’s kingdom among His people.