

“Winning Against Evil”

Matthew 4 ¹ Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted^[d] by the devil. ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

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

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.’^[c]”

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

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.”

¹⁰ Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’^[e]”

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

Jesus has entered the “way of sinners” in His baptism as the

perfect s_____ for humanity in dealing with brokenness and sinfulness!

Jesus now proactively fills the role of “s_____” for broken humanity in their ongoing battle with Satan.

Beyond giving an example for fighting Satan He fights Satan for

us – _____ – doing perfectly what humanity fails at miserably.

(The Old Testament tories that Matthews readers knew well prove that over and over again. Israel is the flawed son, Jesus is the perfect Son/ Savior!)

Satan attacks i_____, sows seeds of relational d_____, calls God into question, promotes self - c_____ and self - r_____!

Temptation #1

Satan assumes Jesus has power but questions how He will _____ it! Who determines how power is _____?

Temptation #2

Satan assumes God has power to p_____ and care for Jesus. The question is will Jesus t_____ or t_____ His father. There is a difference between a t_____ relationship with God and a t_____ relationship with God.

Temptation #3

Satan assumes Jesus will w_____ someone!

Satan asks Jesus to consider having a divided heart – keep all his bases covered, not be c_____ committed to His Father.

Ephesians 6 ¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.