No Title

Jared Bollman · Matthew 4:1–11

INTRODUCTION

- In this passage, we see everything that we really need to know about the devil and how he operates.
- He uses man's desire, or in this case, woman's desire, against them. He makes us our own worst enemy.
- If the devil had the audacity to go after the Son of God, he's not going to be very intimidated by me. Or by you.

1 I'll Start With the Ego

Proverbs 16:18; James 4:6; 2 Timothy 2:15

- Proverbs 16, verse 18 said, pride goes before destruction. And a haughty spirit before the stumbling.
- It's ego. Almost every temptation begins with ego. It begins with thoughts of I want.
- We'll start with I want. We'll move on to I think I deserve this. And finally we'll say, I covet this.
- I'll start with the ego because it's a low-hanging fruit. It's the easiest one.
- But the problem with pride, the problem with ego is its destructive influence.
- Using the influence of pride, I would tear down the truth of God and raise up idols in the form of celebrity.

2 I'd Learn Your Weaknesses Next

1 Peter 5:6–9; Romans 1:28–32

- I'd appeal to your logic. I'd use science.
- And then I turn around and I'd appeal to your emotion.
- And then I turn around and even do the most insidious thing of all. I'd entertain you.
- Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God. That he may exalt you at the proper time.
- But if I can just get you to laugh at it and make somebody else think it's okay that I've done my job.
- I'd pinpoint the holes in your defenses, and I'd leave you vulnerable by helping you neglect study.

3 I'd Offer You This Easier Way

Matthew 7:13–14; Genesis 3:6–7

- Enter through the narrow gate, for the gate is wide, and the way is broad, it leads to destruction.

- If you want to end up in hell this evening, I can promise you it's easy to get there. And because I'm the devil, I'll never tell you that's where you're going.
- I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God.
- With a sense of belonging and a promise of a life without pain or regret, I changed the way you look at responsibility and sacrifice.
- The devil appeals to us with this very same doctrine and makes us comfortable sitting right here in this building.
- We need men that answer to God's authority and do the right thing, not for notoriety, but because it is the right thing.

4 I'd Convince You That I'm Not Real

- If I were the devil, I'd do one last thing. I'd convince you that everything you just heard was untrue.
- I convince you that I'm not real. And in that I would have my greatest success.
- Because if I'm not real, then there is no God. If I'm not real, there is no judgment to fear. If I'm not real, there is no hell.
- He is just as real as I am. And he'll continue to do what he's always done.

THE CHALLENGE

If there's anyone here this evening that owes some duty to God, if your soul is not right, there'll never be a better opportunity to change that than right now.

MY NOTES