The Testing Of The Son

Tony Mauck · Matthew 4:1–11

INTRODUCTION

- We should not conclude that this is the only time that Satan tempts the Lord.
- Satan hangs out on my street. He is after us, just like he was after our Lord and Savior.

1 The Threefold Avenue of Sin

1 John 2:15–17

- Don't love the world, neither the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- The lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes, and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.
- The temptation out of his hunger to take these stones and make bread out of them is an appeal to his flesh.
- The pinnacle leap has to do with the boastful pride of life. An overindulgence in regard to one's view of self.

2 How to Defeat Our Adversary

2 Peter 3:17–18; Ephesians 4:29

- As Jesus, on all three occasions, what does he do? He quotes from Scripture.
- We take the word in, we ingest it and digest it, so that in the moments of temptation we know how we ought to respond.
- We need to use Scripture to fight off his advances. We need to be ready.
- We need to be careful in our use of Scripture that we do not bring it in conflict with other passages of Scripture.

3 The Business of Sonship

Matthew 2:14–15; Exodus 4:22–23; Deuteronomy 1:31

- This is a test of sonship. And it's based in things that have happened in the Old Testament.
- He goes down to Egypt, and as a son comes up out of Egypt, just like Israel came out of Egypt.
- Israel is a type of Christ. Both were brought forth from the power of this world.
- Israel is my son, my firstborn. So I shall say to you, let my son go, that he may serve me.

4 Will Jesus Succeed Where Israel Failed?

1 Corinthians 10; Deuteronomy 6:16; Deuteronomy 8:3

- Nevertheless, with most of them, God was not well pleased.

- How many days did Jesus fast in the wilderness? Forty days. How long was Israel in the wilderness? Forty years.
- Jesus could not bail himself out by an exercise of his divine power for personal interests.
- Jesus did not come to bask in the privileges of deity and glory, but to suffer and serve as a man.

5 The High Honor and Challenge of Sonship

Hebrews 2:1–3

- We have two models. One of failure and one of success. Will we succeed as Jesus succeeded as a son? Or will we fail as Israel failed?
- We've got more, and because we've got more, we're held to a higher standard.
- If we develop those kinds of self-righteous, self-promoting, self-elevating thoughts that destroyed those Pharisees spiritually, we'll fail as sons.
- Checking off the checklist. Without investing our hearts in our adoration of God. We fail.

6 Succeeding as Sons

Luke 6:35; Romans 8:14–17; Romans 9:25–26

- Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.
- We don't return evil for evil, but we give a blessing instead. So that we can be like our Father, sons of the Most High.
- Those who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God.
- The realization of the fact that we are his sons, and the high privilege that it is to be his son will help us in the fight against temptation.

THE CHALLENGE

May we fight our adversary, and may we do so equipped with the word of God, knowing that God has high expectations of his sons. Will we succeed where Israel failed?

MY NOTES