

# How Much Do You Trust God?

## (Matthew 4:1-11)

In Matthew 4:1-11 we find one of the darkest moments in Jesus' life. He is in a dry and deserted place. He is uncomfortable, lonely and completely isolated from civilization.

While in the wilderness He fasted for 40 days and nights and became hungry (Matthew 4:2). He is hungry because He was both God and man while on earth (John 1:14). Why is He fasting? This was an opportunity for Him to really begin focusing on the mission given to Him by God the Father.

At the end of the period of fasting (while in a vulnerable position) the tempter came to test Him (Matthew 4:3). He knows that if he can persuade Jesus to sin, then God's entire plan for our salvation would be destroyed!

### I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (Matthew 4:1-11)

- A. What were they?
  1. Turn \_\_\_\_\_ into \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 3).
  2. Jump of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the temple (vss. 5-6).
  3. Bow down and \_\_\_\_\_ Satan (vss. 8-9).
  4. Jesus resisted every temptation of Satan!
- B. What did the temptations have in common?
  1. They all challenged Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ in God!
    - a. With the first temptation Satan is challenging Jesus' trust in God's ability to take care of Him. But just like God took care of Israel in the wilderness when they were hungry, Jesus trusted God would do the same for Him (Matthew 4:4; Deuteronomy 8:3). In fact, that is exactly what happened (Matthew 4:11).
    - b. With the second temptation, Satan wanted to see if Jesus really trusted in God's word. He quotes from Psalm 91:11-12, but he misapplies it. This psalm was originally intended to encourage men to trust in God, not test God (Matthew 4:7; Deuteronomy 6:16).
    - c. With the third temptation, Satan challenged God's plan to give Jesus all authority and power. Jesus refused to bow down and worship Satan (Matthew 4:10; Deuteronomy 6:13)! Instead, He would trust God's plan for Him, even if it meant enduring the suffering of the cross.
  2. Through each temptation, Jesus refused to \_\_\_\_\_ His trust in God!

### II. Do you trust God?

- A. When you lose a \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 6:33)?
- B. When you feel \_\_\_\_\_ and forsaken (John 3:16; Hebrews 13:5)?
- C. When you get sick?
- D. When you engage in \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 28:20)?
- E. When you begin struggling with a \_\_\_\_\_ weakness (Psalm 119:105)?
- F. When it comes to \_\_\_\_\_ growth (Acts 2:47)?

**Conclusion:** The devil is constantly after us (1 Peter 5:8). But like Jesus, we must always \_\_\_\_\_ God if we are going to effectively resist him (Proverbs 3:5-8)!