

Been There, Done That

Recap/Intro

- Why did the chicken cross the road? The Doors, "Break on through to..." Anakin became Vader and crossed over to...
- Jewish, Jewish, Jewish.
- Public baptism, declaration by the Father, concerning the Son, anointed with the HS.
- The nugget - **God never asks us to do anything He hasn't already done, or go through anything He hasn't already gone through. Jesus walks with us to the other side.**

Matthew 4:1-17

4:1-11

- **4:1** Such a loaded verse!
 - **Then Jesus** - what had just happened? What was about to happen?
 - **led up by the Spirit** - Wait, what? You mean God leads us into these things? Yup! Everywhere the Spirit leads us is an opportunity for either more works of the flesh, or fruit of the Spirit. It's all about perspective.
 - **tempted** - word has a positive and negative flavor, depending on the context.
 - **The difference between tempting and testing is this; tempting wants to see how bad you will do, testing wants to see how good you will do.**
 - Need to change our perspective when a temptation or trial come our way. **James 1:13-15.**
 - What Satan uses to tempt and tear down, God uses to test and build up.
 - Word related to pierce, as in break through. To have successfully gotten through. Our response to tempting/testing should not be to avoid, but cross over. The Red Sea.
 - Summary of the Devil. (**slides**)
 - Raises the question; if Jesus is God, can He be tempted?
 - 100% human, 100% divine. Liberal and conservative emphasis.
 - **Philippians 2:5-8.** Denied Himself the power available to Him.
 - **Hebrews 4:14-16** Jesus has been there done that. Has crossed over, broken through, and goes with us. Review nugget.
- **4:2-4**
 - Talk about fasting and the body for that long. 40 days from now is Dec 9.
 - The tempter, challenging Jesus' identity. Does to us today.
 - Jesus giving into this temptation would not prove He is the Son of God, the opposite is true. "If you love me you will..."
 - We do live by bread, but not bread alone.
 - Was trying to figure out why these would be tempting to Jesus. Answer lay in the context of the verses He quotes. **Deuteronomy 8:1-3.**
 - **When God tests you to see what's in your heart, do you obey what's in His word? Do you know it like that? How's your diet?**
- **4:5-7**
 - Again, challenging His identity.

- Devil knows scripture, knows God's word. Ps 91:11-12. Uses out of context. Gen 3.
- Why was this a temptation? Jesus didn't need angels. Context of quote, Deuteronomy 6:10-16, another layer back to Exodus 17:7, is God with us or not?
- Again, Jewish Jewish Jewish. They knew scripture like we know movie quotes or sports stats.
- The point here isn't so much "don't test God" as it is "Don't test whether He is with you or not when He said He would be and He has your ultimate good in mind."
- Bonus - Jesus is claiming to be God.
- 4:8-11
 - Doesn't test His identity directly, goes after Jesus' future. How is this a temptation? They both know Jesus is going to have this anyway one day. "You can have it all now, you don't have to go through this."
 - Again, the context. Deuteronomy 6:13. God promised His people a land they didn't have to develop, just walk in and take. They were to worship and serve (LOVE) Him, not the gods of those He was driving out.
 - Same is true for us. God has promised us a life here and in eternity that is of His making, His design, out of love for us. How can we not worship and serve Him alone?
- Couple of things
 - Interesting that Jesus didn't pray for the temptation to stop or ask why. Riff.
 - He doesn't chew the Devil out in His own name, calling Him names. James 4:7-8.
 - Instead, Jesus obeys the leading of the Spirit to go through this on purpose. Perspective.
- 4:12-17
 - 4:12-16
 - After surviving temptation, and a period of recovery and reflection, it isn't time to lay low. It is time to get out there and go. To use what the Lord brought you through, strengthened you through, for His kingdom.
 - Again, Jesus' life a fulfillment of scripture. MAPS. Anyone who says that you can't trust the Bible hasn't looked into it for themselves.
 - 4:17
 - Jesus is telling Jews, God's people, to repent. Seem odd to you? Does that ever apply to Christians? You betcha! James 4:1-10, Paul's epistles, Jesus to churches in Rev. 2-3. Do Christians and churches today need to be told to repent? Absolutely.
 - Revealed truth, recognized sin, reversed direction, restored relationship.
 - The kingdom. They had lost site of the monarchy of God the Theocracy before Saul.
 - Is God the king of your life?

Wrap up

- God never asks us to do anything He hasn't already done, or go through anything He hasn't already gone through. Jesus walks with us to the other side.
- Change perspective when stuff hits your life.
- Let Jesus be the Lord, the King of your life.