

*Hello! This is Dorothy*

I would like us to pick up our Bible, please, and turn to **Matthew chapter 4**, where we are going to read between **verses 1 and 11**. This same incident is mentioned also in **Mark chapter 1:12-13** and **Luke chapter 4: 1-13**, but we are turning to **Matthew chapter 4**, where we read about the temptation of our Lord.

You know, the Lord had no need to meet the devil. The Lord is the triumphant federal head of a new creation. He met Satan and met him for us. The Lord Jesus conquered Satan and conquered him for us. What He did, we did in Him, for now our . . . **life is hid in Christ. (Colossians 3:3)**. Therefore, He did this for us. So, in all our battles, we are simply to manifest His life, display His power, and celebrate His victory by using His sword. What is His sword? It is the Word of God. Keep going to the Word of God.

The Lord met Satan, the devil, at His worst in solitude. We read . . . **in the wilderness** . . . in one of the accounts, and . . . **with the wild beasts** . . . in another account. Satan knows the Scriptures. Remember this: he can come with his worst assault to you through the Scriptures. He speaks and suggests and cites and allures, misrepresents and lies. But listen to what happened to Jesus when he took this Scripture. We read in **Matthew 4 -**

**1 Then Jesus was led (guided) by the [Holy] Spirit into the wilderness (desert) to be tempted (tested and tried) by the devil.**

**2 And He (Jesus) went without food for forty days . . .** They say that you can fast and you feel hungry for the first five days and after that, you do not feel hungry in the same way, and by forty days, you become desperately hungry. That is when the body is urgently going into the level of dying, and it needs nutriment quickly. . . . **and forty nights, and later he was hungry.**

**3 And the tempter -that is Satan - came and said to him, If you are God's Son - that word really means since You are - he knew He was God's Son - command these stones to be made [loaves of] bread.**

**4 But he replied, It has been written, Man shall not live and be upheld and be sustained by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. [ Deuteronomy 8:3.]**

My mind goes to how Esau, years before, coming in very, very hungry, sold his birthright - everything to do with his future - just for what we call a mess of pottage. - like a bowl of oatmeal. In other words, he sold everything for so small a thing. Oh, how stupid that you and I would sell ourselves out. Perhaps we think the job is going to be better or something about us or we are going to get better ways of getting food, and we would deny the Lord, because if we come under certain government restrictions, this way we will be taken care of. Be very careful what this verse is saying to you and act on it, please.

Then we read -

**5 Then the devil took Him into the holy city, and placed Him on a pinnacle (gable) of the temple sanctuary - a very high up place.**

**6 And he said to him , If -that is, since - You are the Son of God, throw**

yourself down; for it is written, He will give His angels charge over you, and they will bear you up on their hands, lest you strike your foot against a stone. [Psalm 91:11,12).

7 And Jesus said to him, On the other hand, it is written also, Thou shalt not tempt, test thoroughly, or try exceedingly the Lord your God. (Deuteronomy 6:16).

8 Again the devil took Him up on a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory (the splendor, magnificance, preeminence, and excellence) of them. You know, all those things you think you want.

9 And he said to Him, These things, all taken together, I will give You, if You will prostrate Yourself before me and do homage and worship me.

10 Then Jesus said to him, Begone, Satan! For it has been written, You shall worship the Lord your God, and him alone will you serve.

11 Then the devil departed from him, and, behold, angels came and ministered to the Lord.

**It is written.** Will you deal with today's problems by saying, **It is written?** Will you go to the Word of God? Will you take from the Word of God exactly what God is saying and rejoice in it?

Let us hear what God is doing in your life. We want to help you spiritually, and we love you in Him.

*God bless.*

