THIS WEEK’S MESSAGE

FEBRUARY 15TH-16TH, 2020 // BOOK OF MATTHEW

TEMPETATION IN THE WILDERNESS (MATTHEW 4:1-11)

The Spirit that descended on Jesus and led Him into the wilderness to be tempted (vs. 1).

The first Adam, met Satan and lost- and plunged humanity into sin and death (Gen. 3).

The Spirit that descended on Jesus now led Him into the wilderness to be tempted (vs. 1).

We need to know that there is an unseen spiritual world and there is a spiritual war.

Our enemy in this spiritual war, Satan, is formidable (1 Pet. 5:8) and he’s dead set on destroying the kingdom of Christ and the children of God.

The stakes in this spiritual war are eternal and the scope of this war is universal.

Our involvement in this spiritual war is personal- there is a specific way it is being fought in your own life.

The first Adam, met Satan and lost- and plunged humanity into sin and death (Gen. 3).

The next temptation is more subtle, and Satan ups the ante by even quoting Scripture (vs. 6).

We have physical desires that are legitimate, but Satan often tempts us to meet those legitimate desires using illegitimate, sinful means.

Bread to prove He’s the son of God.

After 40 days of fasting, Jesus was hungry- so Satan’s temptation was for Jesus to turn stones into rewards from the Devil.

In verses 8-9 Jesus is taken up to a high mountain, either a physical mountain or in a vision, and he’s facing the face of Satan himself!

The next temptation is more subtle, and Satan ups the ante by even quoting Scripture (vs. 6).

Our involvement in this spiritual war is personal- there is a specific way it is being fought in your own life.

Jesus and the Son of God were tempted and tested in the desert for 40 years after they were “baptized” in the Red Sea (1 Cor. 10:2).

Jesus was calling them away from every identity their culture would assign them.

Jesus wards off the temptation through the same things that you and I have access to- the Word of God, our true identity, and the Holy Spirit.

But now we see the “Last Adam” (1 Cor. 15:45) and the solitary Son of God warding off temptation and defeating Satan.

Satan tempts Jesus with the same kind of temptations he used against Adam & Israel, and the same kinds he uses against us.

Jesus wields off the temptation through the same thing that you and I have access to- the Word of God, our true identity, and the Holy Spirit.

The response of the disciples to Jesus was leaving behind all they knew (vs. 20, 22)

Jesus was calling them away from every identity their culture would assign them.

They left behind all of the things that defined them.

“Follow me” was an invitation to imitate the life of Christ in all things.

Jesus “healed every disease and every affliction among the people”- there was no illness that was known that Jesus couldn’t heal.

The response of the disciples to Jesus was leaving behind all they knew (vs. 20, 22)

The potential for its full realization is too.

The Kingdom is at hand because its King is, and the potential for its full realization is too.

As Jesus walks by the sea of Galilee, he sees Simon (Peter) and Andrew “casting a net”.

A GREAT LIGHT (MATTHEW 4:12-17)

When Jesus heard that “John had been arrested”, he withdrew into Galilee and went to live in Capernaum (vs. 12-13).

Jesus’s choice of Capernaum in Galilee was significant.

Other Gospel accounts tell us that John had been imprisoned on account of publicly rebuking Herod Antipas over his sin, specifically over Herod taking his brother’s wife.

Jesus’s choice of Capernaum in Galilee was significant.

Jesus’s choice of Capernaum in Galilee was significant.

Jesus’s instruction to “follow me” was a departure from what was considered normal.

The Kingdom is at hand because its King is, and the potential for its full realization is too.

The result of this ministry tour in Galilee was that His fame spread (vs. 24), and “great crowds” from all over the country came out to follow Him (vs. 25).

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Witnessing to many of us picture fishermen in the Bible as poor laborers, most of them would actually have made a decent income.

Peter and Andrew were probably living fairly normal lives- Peter was married (Matt. 8:14) and most likely had a couple of kids.

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Peter and Andrew were probably living fairly normal lives- Peter was married (Matt. 8:14) and most likely had a couple of kids.

These men told others- “Healing was a departure from what was considered normal.

The result of this ministry tour in Galilee was that His fame spread (vs. 24), and “great crowds” from all over the country came out to follow Him (vs. 25).

Some of them were there to know Jesus as Messiah, but some were just there for miracles.

TWO KINGDOMS.

“This kingdoms of this world and their glory,” (vs. 8) “The Kingdom of heaven,” (vs. 17)

This life is about choosing which one of these kingdoms will have your primary allegiance.