

## MODEL THE TESTED KING

### Matthew 4: 1–11

#### A. Introduction.

- ▶ The testing of Jesus as the Son of God.

#### B. The Setting of the Temptations.

- ▶ Like Israel, Jesus was led into the wilderness/desert to be tested.

##### 1. First temptation:

###### Turn stones into bread.

- ▶ Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy 8:2-3.

##### 2. Second temptation:

###### Jump off the Temple.

- ▶ The devil quoted Psalm 91:11 –12.
- ▶ Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy 6:16 (Incident in Exodus 17:7).

#### ▪ Explanation

- ▶ Jesus' faithfulness as the representative of God's people (the embodiment of Israel).

#### ○ Think:

- ▶ Testing is essential.

#### • vv.1-2

- ▶ Our point of need can be point of temptation.

#### • vv.3-4

#### ○ Lesson 1:

- ▶ To wait for God's provision.

#### ○ Talk:

- ▶ Are you tempted to take matters into your own hands?

#### • vv.5-7

#### ○ Lesson 2:

- ▶ Never force God's hand.

#### ○ Talk:

- ▶ Have you ever tempted to put God to the test?

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#### 3. Third temptation:

##### Worship the devil.

- ▶ Jesus again quoted from Deuteronomy 6:13

#### C. The Outcome of the Temptations.

- ▶ God feeds his Son in the same way that Israel was supernaturally fed in the wilderness (desert).

#### D. Closing:

- ▶ Matthew gave us this account to show us about Jesus' faithfulness as the rightful representative of God's people (the embodiment of Israel).

##### Remember:

1. Jesus could die for our sins and offers us forgiveness and eternal life in him.
2. Jesus' righteousness is credited to us and our standing before God is depend on his righteousness.

- vv.8–10

##### Lesson 3:

- ▶ God's will is indeed God's way.

##### Talk:

- ▶ Do not let the end justify the means.
- ▶ Are you being tempted to idolatry as a means of avoiding suffering?

- v.11

- ▶ There is reward for faithful obedience.

##### Reflect:

- 1) Do we see temptations as ways to turn to God rather than rely our own abilities?
- 2) How do we satisfy our deepest hungers? By relying on God or on our reputation, power and possessions?
- 3) Are we going to use the 40 days as a retreat – taking time to draw closer to God through prayer and reflection on his word?

- Let us model Jesus as our tested King.