



**The Temptation of Christ**  
"Tempted—Yet Without Sin" Hebrews 4:15

**I. Temptation #1 → To Make Bread Out of Stone → Provision → Matthew 4:3-4**

**A. The Tactics of the Temptation--Matthew 4:3**

1. **The Coming of the Tactic → "The tempter came to him"**
2. **The Challenge in the Temptation → "If you are the Son of God"**
  - a. The insinuation of doubt
  - b. The inducing of pride
3. **The Command in the Tactics**
  - a. The prompting of the command
  - b. The proving in the command
    1. "If you are so great, do something great."
    2. This is the same attitude seen at the cross, "If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."
  - c. The perversion in the command

**B. The Triumph of the Temptation—Matthew 4:4**

1. **The Word of God in the Triumph**
  - a. **The conquering by the Word**
    1. This bit of Scripture stopped the temptation dead in its track.
    2. Christ demonstrated the effectiveness of the Word of God in opposing evil.
  - b. **The confirmation of the Word**
    1. Christ gave testimony to confirming that this was the Word of God.
    2. The first word spoken by Christ in His ministerial office is an assertion of the authority of the Scripture.
2. **The Humanity of Christ in the Triumph**
  - a. The reason He insisted on battling Satan on the grounds of His humanity is that He came to earth to identify with mankind in order to be his substitute at Calvary.
  - b. The nobility of Christ taking the humanity position is seen in the fact that it helped others.

## **II. Temptation #2 → To Jump Off the Temple → Protection → Matthew 4:5-7**

### **A. The Tactics of the Temptation**

- 1. The Place of the Tactics → "set him on the pinnacle of the temple"**
- 2. The Promise in the Tactics**

### **B. The Triumph Over the Temptation**

- 1. The Scripture in the Triumph → Matthew 4:7**
- 2. The Steadfastness in the Triumph → Matthew 4:7 "again"**
  - a. The steadfastness in refusal to sin**

**Temptation comes again and again; and if we are going to have victory over evil, we will have to refuse temptation again and again.**
  - b. The steadfastness in the reference to Scripture.**

## **III. Temptation #3 → To Possess the Kingdoms of the World → Power → Matthew 4:8**

### **A. The Tactics of the Temptation**

- 1. The Place in the Tactics**
- 2. The Presentation in the Tactics**
  - a. The magnitude of the presentation → Matthew 4:8**
  - b. The manner of the presentation**
  - c. The misleading of the presentation**
- 3. The Promise in the Tactics**
  - a. The power in the promise → Luke 4:6-7**
    - 1. Promised all the power → most alluring bait**
    - 2. The largeness of the bait reveals the spiritual strength of the person tempted.**
  - b. The price in the promise**
    - 1. The philosophy of the price**

**Bowing down to Satan said you must do evil to get ahead in life.**
    - 2. The painlessness of the price**
      - 1. Satan's scheme for Christ was to gain the kingdoms without going through the process of the cross.**
      - 2. Satan wanted Christ to skip the cross for it would be the place of Christ's great victory over Satan.**

### **B. The Triumph of the Temptation**

- 1. The Separation in the Triumph**
- 2. The Scripture in the Triumph**
- 3. The Solace in the Triumph → Matthew 4:11**
- 4. The Strength from the Triumph → Luke 4:14**
  - a. When Christ entered the temptation experience, we read in Luke 4:1, that Christ "was full of the Holy Ghost."**
  - d. But after the temptation was completed there is a significant change in the wording.**
  - e. Spiritual strength comes from spiritual success.**

**Every temptation we defeat adds to the power we gain for living for Christ.**