

## Temptation's Biggest Question

Matthew 3:13-4:11 (Romans 6, 1 Corinthians 10:1-13)

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1 Corinthians 10:13 - *No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*

Two huge issues arise with every temptation

- There is always **more at stake** than the temptation of the moment.
- Temptation always asks the question, **“Can I really Trust God?”**

1) Three principle temptations we all face:

a. Verse 3 - *Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”*

- Temptation #1 – **To meet a legitimate need in an illegitimate way**

b. Verses 5-6 - Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: ‘*He shall give His angels charge over you, and, In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.*’ ”

- Temptation #2 – **To attempt to use God to meet your own ends.**

c. Verses 8-9 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup> And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.”

- Temptation #3 – **To try to take a short cut to the right destination**

2) Three undeniable issues are at stake when face temptation

- a. Stop and Think - **Your future** is at stake
- b. Stop and Think - The future of **your family** is at stake.
- c. Stop and Think - **Your faith** is at stake.

3) God's provision for temptation:

a. Romans 6:5-14 especially 14 - *For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.*

b. When tempted Stop and Think - Because Jesus lives in me I can say to temptation...

- i. Temptation you are not going to **have my future**
- ii. Temptation you are not going to **have my family**
- iii. Temptation you are not going to **have my faith**