

Matthew 19-04-07a

Good morning, welcome to the Sunday morning services at Grace and Truth Bible Church. It's a special day. We've got visitors from afar.

So those of you that remain afar can wish you were here. This is April the 7th, 2019. We continue our study in the Gospel of Matthew.

We're picking up in chapter four. We'll be looking at the first 14 verses by way of review and then picking up in verse 15 where Jesus begins his active ministry. Let's take a moment as we customarily do to ask God's blessing on our fellowship, on our study, to bless us with concentration and with the full-orbed ministry of God's Holy Spirit for the benefits of the spiritual gifts that each one of you possess as well as mine and that everything we do will be decent and in good order and reflect the glory of the Lord Jesus.

Shall we pray? Father, what a privilege it is on this morning to wake up and find that, as always, your mercies have been renewed, your faithfulness is evident. We experience a resurrection to life every new day and we realize that you have allocated to us the stewardship of time and resources, the presence and power of your spirit, the truth of your word resident in our souls. We pray that as we spend this time together in worship and in fellowship and instruction in your word that the Holy Spirit will superintend and will enlighten the eyes of our understanding to see these great truths that are manifest in the story of the Lord Jesus in his coming to earth, beginning his ministry, in resisting the tests that were put before him in accordance with your plan and that we can draw from that the guidance and application that will inform our own thinking and understanding as we seek to live our lives in a way that does please you and bring glory to the Lord Jesus.

We pray these things in his name, amen. If you have not yet done so, you'll want to turn to Matthew chapter four and we'll read the first dozen or so verses mainly because we're going to see an Old Testament adumbration, if you will, of these particular truths and find out exactly how the Lord Jesus accomplished his successful warding off of the temptations that we looked at last time. But it's important to keep the context in mind both when you look at the New Testament and when you look at the Old.

So beginning in Matthew chapter four, verse one, it says, then Jesus was led up by the Spirit, the Spirit we just saw at the end of chapter three, descending like a dove into the wilderness, underlying circle put a star next to wilderness to be tempted by the devil. When he had fasted 40 days and 40 nights, afterward he was hungry. Now, when the tempter came to him, he said, on the assumption that you are the son of God, command that these stones become bread.

But he, Jesus, answered and said, it is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Then the devil took him up into the

holy city, set him on the pinnacle of the temple, 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. Jesus said to him, it is written again, you shall not tempt the Lord your God.

Again, the devil took him up on an exceedingly high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and he said to him, all these things I will give you if you will fall down and worship me. Jesus said to him, away with you, Satan, for it is written, you shall worship the Lord your God, and him only you shall serve. Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and ministered to him.

By way of quick review, you will remember that these temptations are given in detail in only two of the four Gospels. Do you remember the focus of the four Gospels? This is basic stuff all of us as believers ought to be able to rattle off the top of our head. The four Gospels, four different points of view on the Lord Jesus, what are they? The Gospel before us, Gospel of Matthew, presents Jesus the King, Jesus the Messiah, specifically the King of what? Thou have heard so many songs, Jesus is King of my heart, King of this, King of that.

The Gospel of Matthew presents Jesus as the anointed one, the King of Israel. How about the Gospel of Mark? These things make a cross, by the way, they box the compass. If Matthew is at the top of the cross, and that's Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews, right? What would be down at the bottom for Gospel of Mark? He's the servant, Jesus the servant, the opposite of a king is a servant.

And that's the cross buried in the earth, right? Luke, what is Luke's emphasis? Best way to remember that is to remember John's emphasis, which is easy. What's John's emphasis? Jesus as the son of God. So what's the opposite of that? Son of man.

So now you've got your formula, you'll always remember the emphasis of the Gospels, and this is important for what they include and what they do not cover individually when you look at them synoptically or compare them side by side. So it is interesting to me that the presentation by Matthew of Jesus as the King of Israel, what do you have to be to be the King of Israel since they rejected theocracy? God was their monarch until they said, give us a king, right? So what do you have to be to be the King of Israel? Son of David, which means you have to be not deity, but humanity, right? So the humanity of Christ as the anointed one, his qualifications through his genealogy as son of David, son of Abraham, and so on, all of this is manifest. His birth, got two chapters dedicated to the birth of John the Baptist and the birth of the Lord Jesus.

Birth, this happens to humans. God's in mythology might be born, but God himself is outside of time. There's no such thing as birth for deity.

In the beginning was the word. The word was with God and the word was God. The word

wasn't born in heaven.

So you've got birth. This is a human attribute in the gospel of Matthew. So thinking through your four gospels, which other gospel is likely to cover in detail the testing of Jesus in his humanity? You might think it would be Mark, but it's kind of mean to pick on a servant.

But Jesus as the son of man, that's emphasis on his humanity. So in Matthew and in Luke, you have the detail of the devil testing the Lord Jesus in his humanity, in his human weakness. He's gone 40 days with no food, which is an essential component for humans, right? So Mark just boils right in immediately this, immediately that preaching of Peter.

You get a couple of verses about John and the Lord Jesus gets after it. So he's led up by the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He's fasted 40 days and 40 nights.

Afterward, he is hungry. Tempter comes to him and you've got that first class condition we talked about. People like to say if, and it's true, but this is on the assumption that this is true.

It doesn't admit that it's true. It just says, well, assuming this to be the case, then this should follow. So command that these stones become bread, but he says, it is written, man should not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

Now, what we're gonna see this morning, I will tell you what I'm gonna tell you before I tell you, and then I'll tell it to you, and then I'll tell you what I told you after I tell you. But what we're gonna see this morning is that our Christian faith is not built on slogans. It's not built on proof texts.

It's not built on quick formulaic solutions. I've got a problem, give me a verse, preferably a short verse. Wait on the Lord, be of good cheer.

Okay, that works. Thank you very much, and I'm on my way. The Lord Jesus is not at the beginning of 40 days here, he is at the end.

What do you think he has been doing for the 40 days and 40 nights that Israel did not do, by and large, during the 40 years that they spent in the wilderness? They are as faithless and as ignorant in terms of faith of the promises of God at the end of that time as they were at the beginning. What do you think the Lord Jesus has been doing for these 40 years? He has spent the first 30 years of his life preparing for this challenge. He is steeped.

At the age of 12, we see him at the temple confounding the, King James, I think, says

doctors, you know, the smart guys on the law, the scribes and the Pharisees and the elders and the chief priests, the priests themselves, the senior ones are down there, and he's asking them the questions they can't answer and is demonstrating his knowledge of scripture, and he's not even halfway to his ministry yet at age 12. So when he says here, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God, this takes nothing away from memorizing verses and giving us hooks in our mind to hang truth on with those, hopefully, verbatim quotes that the Holy Spirit can stabilize us with, where we're flopping around, he can nail us down and get us steady so that we can remember the rest of what we know. But our Christian faith doesn't depend on quick fix, one tack to hold it in place.

Let me put a couple of pieces of masking tape here to hold this where it goes. We are fixed. We are stabilized.

We are built on a foundation. It's a house built on a rock, not a tent pitched in a convenient spot, right? And the Lord Jesus demonstrates this in these first dozen or so verses of Matthew chapter four. So when he says man shall not live by bread alone, what is our constant rule? What have we said now for years and years and years when you see the Old Testament quoted in the New? What do you do? I used to say it's like a footnote, but people don't read books that much anymore, so now I'm gonna tell you this is like a link.

This is like click the link, okay? This says, this is just to get you to the place, but I expect you to know everything that's on that page, not just this little marker. I've built thousands of links where you use the `ahref tag equals quote` and you put the actual URL, then you close the quote and you close the little pointy bracket and then you put what you want to show on the page for the person to click. And how does fooling you into clicking something you don't wanna click work? It says one thing, but it takes you somewhere else, right? You gotta look at the lower left of your browser, most of them, when you mouse over that, before you click it, read it, and make sure it's going where you think it's going or where they say it's going, because it can say one thing and do another.

They should match. Well, this is like a hyperlink. And we saw this last time, what is the passage that Jesus is quoting? This is Deuteronomy chapter eight.

Now, here's another quick memory aid. My goal, I would love if a month from now, you think back on Matthew chapter four and the three temptations of the Lord Jesus, and you can remember what we're gonna cover this morning. And so I'm gonna try to put it in memorable form.

How many temptations are there? We saw them last time. Stones to bread, jump off the temple, kingdoms of the world, right? Three temptations. Jesus says, every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

In the Old Testament, how many pieces was the word of God divided into? When you say Tanakh, what are you saying? That's an acronym that comes from Hebrew for Torah, Nevi'im, and Ketuvim, right? Which is Torah, the law, Nevi'im, Nevi, prophet, and Ketuv, which is Ketav, to write, to cut, law, prophets, and writings. Three parts of the Old Testament, right? So if it's every word that proceeds from the mouth of God, where are you gonna be drawing from? The law, the prophets, and the writings. You got three temptations here.

You got the word of God that you're supposed to live by. You need to know it all, right? Now, we're gonna talk specifically this morning because I don't have time in my schedule of finishing Matthew before I leave this life, but we're gonna look at a sample of this, and you can flesh out the bones here. Every word that proceeds from the mouth, this phrase, as you might be able to tell, fascinates me, which is why I'm repeating it so much.

Every word that proceeds from the mouth of God comes from Deuteronomy chapter eight. We saw last time that the Lord Jesus has in the front of his mind Deuteronomy chapter six, chapter seven, and chapter eight, right? Which in our English Bible is three chapters. So just as a memory aid, the chapter breaks are not necessarily inspired, but just remember that Jesus is going to the law and he's going to three chapters in Deuteronomy, chapter six, chapter seven, and chapter eight.

And we went and looked at chapter eight last time and that context of how we are to live, right? So let me just read the first part of Deuteronomy chapter eight, we'll just read a few verses to refresh your mind. This is really important to understand what's coming. So Deuteronomy chapter eight, every commandment which I command you today, what did Jesus quote to the devil? Every word, right? Every commandment is how this starts.

You could see a link. Every commandment which I command you today, you must be careful to observe that you may live and multiply and go in and possess the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers. And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these 40 years, where? Where did I have you circle, underline, and star? In the wilderness, right? To humble you and test you.

Who led Jesus into the wilderness to face the devil? The Holy Spirit, God's spirit. To know what was in your heart. Have you recently been under pressure? What happens when you put a piece of citrus fruit under pressure? You find out what's inside, don't you? You squeeze it hard enough, and what's in is going to come out.

Put you in the wilderness to humble you and test you to know what was in your heart. Why does God allow pressure into our lives? Squeezes out what's inside. You may be able to keep up a great facade when everything is going smoothly, but put a little pressure on, add a little bit of physical challenge, add a little bit of people challenge, add a little bit of your besetting sin, add a little bit of principalities and powers and rulers of darkness, and you have a stew fit to throw out.

It is going to make something that, under normal circumstances, you might be able to contain and hide, but under pressure, your tongue will slip, your temper will give way, and what is inside will come out. To know what was in your heart, whether you will keep his commandments or not. Keep how many of the commandments? Well, I haven't committed adultery.

I haven't stolen anything. How did it begin? Every commandment which I command you today. The entirety.

We're in Psalm 119, and we're seeing those seven synonyms for the Torah, which is term number eight, and they're used interchangeably and side by side, statutes, precepts, ordinances, laws, judgments, over and over again through Psalm 118. Know them all. So he humbled you and allowed you to do what? Hunger.

And fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know. Why? That he might make you know. He fed you with manna you did not know to make you know.

And then Jesus quotes, man shall not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord. Your garments did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these 40 years slash days. You should know in your heart that as a man chastens his son so the Lord your God chastens you.

How did Satan begin the test? On the assumption that you are what? The son of God, right? You should know in your heart that as a man chastens his son so the Lord your God chastens you, who in this case is his son. Therefore you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God to walk in his ways and to fear him. For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs that flow out of valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, vines and fig trees.

How would you like to be reciting this verse in your mind when you haven't eaten for 40 days? Oh yeah, wheat, barley, vines, fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey. A land in which you will do what? Eat bread without scarcity. In which you will lack nothing.

A land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you can dig copper. When you have eaten and are full, then you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land which he has given you. Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments, his judgments and his statutes which I command you today.

Lest, what does it say in verse 12? When you have eaten and are full, bad things happen. You can read the rest of that chapter for yourself. Context, context, context.

Jesus is reminding Satan of everything that is in this chapter, not just verse three. Jesus, you can use a memory verse to get there, but you've got to know the background. Why is it so important to live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God? Because these are the promises.

This is the future. This is what is on the line. Not just simply, oh, I need to, well, let's see.

God got a word about rocks to bread. I'm trying to remember, no, I remember rocks to water. I don't remember rocks to bread.

Maybe it's okay. But when you see the truth that this is set in like a beautiful gemstone and you look at the setting and all of the intricacy of God's promise and God's character and God's plans for the future for testing his son the way a man tests his son, this is the fabric that holds. This is the, they used to call our utilities in the Marine Corps.

They're made out of ripstop material, ripstop. Snag it on a piece of wire you're crawling over or under or through and it won't rip. It doesn't just shred.

It's ripstop. Well, this is the fabric of truth that should undergird our thinking. It's not, you can get to a particular point with a promise or a memory verse, but we've got to put some flesh on those bones.

We've got to fill it out and make it breathe and make it live in our souls. And to do that, you have to know more than your verses. You've got to know the law.

You've also got to know the prophets who were constantly making application and calling Israel back to keeping the law, remembering the law, honoring the God of the law. And then you've got the writings, which are the history of success and failure in so doing. Three temptations, three facets of God's every word to rely on and Jesus knows them all.

So every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God, stones to bread, three verses in Deuteronomy, three chapters actually, six, seven, and eight for us. Now turn back to Exodus chapter 16. You think about bread.

What do I know about bread? I can't think of a memory verse that that's one, not live by bread alone. But what do we have in Exodus chapter 16? They have just been to the waters of Marah in the end of chapter 15. This is verse 22 of Exodus 15.

Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea. They went out into the wilderness of Shur. Now, if you want some context, where has Jesus just been before the temptations? Standing in the water, right? And he goes from the water to the wilderness.

Israel goes from the water to the wilderness in 15.22 of Exodus. Wilderness of Shur, they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. Now, when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah for they were bitter so they called the name of it Marah.

Remember, this is what Naomi calls herself when she returns from Moab. Do not call me Naomi, call me Marah, bitter. People complained against Moses saying, what are we

supposed to drink? Moses cries out to the Lord.

The Lord showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There he made a statute.

I could talk all day about that little episode right there. But he made a statute and an ordinance for them and there he tested them. He tested them and said, if you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in his sight, give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians for I am Yahweh Rapha.

I am the Lord who heals you. There they came to Elim. Then they came to Elim where there were 12 wells of water, one well for every tribe and 70 palm trees, five trees for every tribe.

What do you eat off of a palm tree? I don't know. Is it food? Why is it important to have palm trees? It's shade. Palm nuts, I think they have little nuts that are edible.

Could have been shade, could have been fronds. You know, they would take palm branches and make shelters and such. But there's one well and five palm trees for every tribe.

So they camped there by the waters. Now chapter 16. They journeyed from Elim.

All the congregation of the children of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai on the 15th day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt. Now, why do we care about that? Well, let me ask you this. What happened on the 14th day of the first month? This shall be the beginning of months for you.

Take a lamb, blood on the doorpost, Passover, 14th Nisan, right? Nisan is the name they got for the month after they went to Babylon. But first, this is the religious calendar now. This'll be the first of months to you.

When it says that it's the 15th day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt, they have been gone from Egypt 30 days. How old is Jesus when he begins his ministry? 30 years. Out of Egypt, I've called my son.

He's 30 years old. They have been in the wilderness 30 days. Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.

What was verse 24 of the previous chapter? The people complained against Moses. Whole congregation complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. And the children of Israel said to them, this is verse three, chapter 16, oh, that we had died by

the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt.

What was the promise in verse 26? If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in his sight, give everyone his commandments, keep his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you, which I have brought on the Egyptians, which killed an awful lot of them. Oh, that we had died. In other words, we're not interested in your promise of protection from disease and death.

Oh, that we had died when we sat by the pots of meat and we ate bread to the full. You have brought us out in this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger. I'd rather have died from a giant hailstone or an overwhelming number of lice or something than to come out here and die of hunger.

So the Lord says to Moses, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day that I may test them whether they will walk in my law or not. Why would Jesus think about Exodus chapter 16? He is, as the King James used to say, and hungered.

He's been out there 40 days fasting and he's hungry. Where is the bread supposed to come from when the people say, I am really hungry? I am hungry to the point of death. So God says, I will rain bread from heaven for you.

Now, what does Satan ask Jesus to make bread out of? Rocks. You want bread from rocks or you want bread from heaven? Hands up, everybody that wants bread from rocks. I'm waiting for the bread from heaven myself.

I think it's probably a little bit better for you. Certain quota every day. Notice a certain quota every day.

Let me say that again. A certain quota of spiritual food every day. Not all day.

You don't spend all day eating. Don't spend all day gathering. But there is a portion of every day devoted to the consumption of heavenly bread.

And I will test them whether they will walk in my law or not. Jesus is being tested by Satan. Shall be on the sixth day, they shall prepare what they bring in.

It shall be twice as much as they gather daily. Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel, at evening you shall know that the Lord has brought you out of the land of Egypt. By the way, why double the day before the Sabbath? So that on the Sabbath, it's already at hand.

If we're gonna worship on Sunday or any other time we're gonna get together with believers, when is the time to have your spiritual food on board? Ahead of time, right? Pastor doesn't wake up Sunday morning and say, hmm, wonder what I'm gonna talk

about today. Hopefully there's been gathering of the man ahead of time and it's ready. Doesn't have to be prepared.

It is presented. It is enjoyed. It's laid up ahead of time.

But that's not just for pastors. That's for all of us. Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel, verse six, at evening you shall know that the Lord has brought you out of the land of Egypt.

And in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord for he hears your complaints against the Lord. But what are we that you complain against us? Now notice, at evening you shall know the Lord has brought you out of the land of Egypt. In the morning, you will see the glory of the Lord.

Evening and morning. Verse eight, this shall be seen when the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and in the morning bread to the full. So the meat at evening is gonna help them know that the Lord has brought them out of the land of Egypt.

The bread in the morning, bread to the full, will show the glory of the Lord. The Lord hears your complaints. Moses spoke to Aaron, say to all the congregation of Israel, verse nine, come near before the Lord for he has brought you out of the land of Egypt.

The Lord has heard your complaints. Came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. And the Lord spoke to Moses saying, notice this is daytime, what's the deal on the pillar? How does that thing work? By day and by night, what does the pillar do? Pillar of cloud by day, pillar of fire by night.

So if you look at the cloud, what do you not see? You see a pillar of cloud, but what do you not see? You don't see the glory of God. But when they look over at the pillar of cloud, it is glowing with what later people would call Shekinah. You do know Shekinah is not in the Bible, but I don't know how that term got so prevalent, but it's the glory of God.

Try to find Shekinah in your Hebrew dictionary, your Hebrew concordance, I should say. It's in the dictionary, but not the concordance. So they look and they see the glory of God appearing in the cloud.

Verse 11, the Lord spoke to Moses saying, I have heard the complaints of the children of Israel. Did you notice how many times their complaints are mentioned? You big complainers. They complain, they complain, they complain.

These complaints have been mentioned six or seven times now. I've heard the complaints. Speak to them and say, at twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread, and you shall know that I am the Lord your God.

So it was that quails came up at evening and covered the camp. And in the morning, dew lay all around the camp, and when the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a small round substance, as fine as frost on the ground. So when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, ma-na, ma-na, what is it? Ma is what, and na is that.

What's that? What is it? Ma-na. They did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, this is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat.

It comes from heaven, and they find it on the ground. They don't take the ground and turn it into ma-na. It's been all kinds of conjecture about plant exudations and insects leaving excretions and things to explain ma-na.

No, sorry, it is from heaven. So then you have all of the instructions for the ma-na, and in verse 26, skip down to verse 26, six days you shall gather it. On the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will be none.

Some of the people went out to gather it, and they found none. And the Lord said to Moses, how long do you refuse to keep my commandments and my laws? People out there trying to gather ma-na on the Sabbath. Verse 32, Moses said, this is the thing which the Lord has commanded.

Fill a homer with it to be kept for your generations, that they may see the bread with which I fed you in the wilderness when I brought you out of the land of Egypt. Moses said to Aaron, take a pot, put an omer of ma-na in it, lay it up before the Lord to be kept for your generations. As the Lord commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the testimony to be kept.

And the children of Israel ate ma-na, how long? 40 years. There's another occasion coming up where the Lord Jesus is gonna be with his disciples up in Samaria, and they're gonna go into town to find food. And when they come back, they try to give him some, and he says, I have bread that you know not of.

All right, 40 years they ate ma-na till they came to an inhabited land. They ate ma-na until they came to the border of the land of Canaan. Immediately after that, you have the episode of water from the rock.

And I only wanna point one thing out because if I gave a pot quiz before this past week, I would have failed it, I suspect you would fail it. What is unique about Moses standing there with a stick and cracking that rock and bringing forth the water? There is a detail of that story that is almost universally overlooked. Look at verse five.

The Lord said to Moses, this is chapter 17 now about the water and the rock. Moses cried out to the Lord saying, what shall I do with this people? They're almost ready to stone me. And the Lord said to Moses, go on before the people and take with you some of the

elders of Israel.

Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river and go. Verse six, chapter 17. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb and you shall strike the rock.

God himself is standing on the rock when Moses strikes it. Presence of the Lord. In the preceding chapter with the announcement that manna will be provided, the glory of the Lord is manifest.

God manifests himself right before the provision is given. Who is gonna be manifest if Jesus turns rocks into bread? Who's he looking at? Do you wanna see the glory of the Lord in the cloud? Do you wanna see the presence of God standing on the rock before you get your bread and your water? Or do you wanna have Satan standing there watching you eat your long looked for meal? Jesus knows the context of these truths. He knows where bread comes from.

He knows the source. He knows that the glory of God is intimately involved in provision. Provision reflects the glory of God for believers.

Any unbeliever can use some mechanism to provide for himself but our provision manifests and reflects the presence and the glory of God in our lives. And sometimes when you're stuck for an answer about, well, how should I proceed? I've got a decision to make or decisions to make with regard to how I'm gonna sustain myself. I'm gonna provide for those who depend on me or whatever.

If you have fog, the situation seems fairly balanced. You're not really sure I could do this, I could do that, I could do the other. One of the clues is look in the distance for the cloud and find the glory of God.

What reflects faith? What reflects patience? What reflects waiting on God? They who wait upon the Lord will renew their strength. They're the ones that are gonna fly when they need to fly. They're gonna walk, they're gonna run.

At the times, you know, sometimes you fly, sometimes you run, sometimes you walk, sometimes you just stand still. But God's provision reflects his presence and his glory. You see it with the manna, you see it with the water from the rock.

Jesus knew this, and his father has not sent any manifestation of his presence. What's gonna happen at the end of this test? Flip back to Matthew chapter four, when he says, away with you Satan, verse 11. Then the devil left him and behold, angels came and ministered to him.

What do angels universally represent? The presence and the power and the glory of God. That's the right way to get your sustenance. There was a threefold allure in the garden

when Eve was tested by this very same individual.

Where is Jesus when he's being tested? The wilderness. Where was Eve when she was being tested? Exact opposite. There's an abundance all around her.

Of all of the trees of the garden, you may freely eat. Just before we go to the break here, just go back to Genesis chapter two. You may remember this or you may not.

Genesis chapter two, verse eight. The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground, the Lord God made every tree grow that is what? Pleasant to the sight and good for food.

This is not the surface of the planet now. This is within the garden. The trees of the garden.

God grows out of the ground and they have two characteristics. They are pleasant to the sight and they are good for food. Tree of life is in the midst of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Tree of life, tree of death, right? Now flip over to chapter three. The serpent, more cunning than any beast, he says, has God indeed said, you shall not eat of every tree of the garden? What are these trees good for? Pleasant to the eye, eyes, sight, and good for food. Can't you eat of every tree? The woman says, we may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, but the fruit of the tree, which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, you shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it lest you die.

Serpent says, you will not surely die. God knows in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be open. You'll be like God knowing good and evil.

Verse six, when the woman saw that the tree was what? Good for food. Why would she see that? Because that's what all the other trees are. Well, it's like all the other trees in that it is good for food.

And that it was what? Pleasant to the eyes. What does 2:6 say about all the trees? Good for food and pleasant to the eyes. Well, this tree is just like the trees that I'm allowed to eat from in these ways.

What was the overturning factor? The third one. Three tests, three chapters, three factors about the tree. Desirable to make one wise.

God didn't plant the trees to make them wise, did he? God had a purpose in his provision. He designed it to be pleasing. This is where all your culinary arts come from.

God says food should be pleasing and it should be nutritious. It's pleasant to look at and it's nutritious. What does provision not do? Where is wisdom supposed to come from? Man doesn't live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of

God.

Wisdom comes from the mouth of God, not from food. Ginkgo biloba and such notwithstanding. So Jesus has all of this in the context of his thought process.

He's been reflecting on the word of God for 40 days. And when Satan comes with this stones to bread thing, he's not fooled. How can we follow his example? When we come back from the break, we're gonna talk about a little bit of Latin.

There's a phrase you may have heard called *possi non peccari* and *non possi peccari*. And you can amaze your friends and astonish your relatives. When we come back from the break, we'll see what that means.

But it has to do with Jesus as the Messiah to Israel, Jesus as the Son of Man. And how does the nature of the Lord Jesus work in his humanity? He's the Son of God and he's the Son of Man. So what is the exact nature of this temptation? And is it something that we can apply? Can we legitimately look at this and say, I can do the exact same thing the Lord Jesus did and I can be sustained by the same grace that he was sustained by? Well, we'll see that when we come back from the break.