

IV. TAKE THE WAY OF **ESCAPE** FROM TEMPTATION (4:11)

“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.”

I Corinthians 10:13

A. Jesus escaped temptation through the **Holy Spirit**. (4:1)

“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

Galatians 5:16

B. Jesus escaped temptation through **prayer**. (4:2)

“However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”

Matthew 17:21

C. Jesus escaped temptation through the **Bible**. (4:3-10)

“You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.”

John 15:3

D. Jesus escaped temptation through **worship**. (4:10)

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:1-2

ASK JESUS TO UNDERSTAND YOUR TEMPTATIONS

THIS IS JESUS

Jesus Understands My Temptations

Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

- A. All your life you’ve wondered about Jesus. Who is He really? This Is Jesus will bring you face to face with the real Jesus. You will find the answer to Jesus’ question...

“He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Matthew 16:15

Nothing is more important than knowing the correct answer to this question and how Jesus relates to your life. It impacts the quality of your life and where you will spend eternity.

- B. This series will make deep theological topics of Jesus’ life understandable and applicable. Come and you will discover how Jesus helps US in our everyday lives! The messages include:

Feb 23	Jesus Forgives My Sin
TODAY	Jesus Understands My Temptations
Mar 8	Jesus Meets My Needs
Mar 15	Jesus Calms My Fears
Mar 22	Jesus Heals My Sickness
Mar 29	Jesus Desires My Obedience
Apr 5	Jesus Secures My Eternity

- C. **TEXT:** Matthew 4:1-11 (Pew Bible/Page 963/New Test.)

- Temptation is the desire to **break** God’s laws.
- Jesus was tempted to sin like us, but he **never** sinned.

“For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”

Hebrews 4:15

JESUS UNDERSTANDS MY TEMPTATIONS

I. KNOW **SATAN** IS THE TEMPTER (4:1c)

A. **God** is not your tempter.

“Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone:”
James 1:13

B. **Satan** is your tempter.

*“8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.
9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.”*
I Peter 5:8-9

Testing is designed by **God** for your **development**.

Temptation is designed by **Satan** for your **destruction**.

This is called “spiritual warfare”.

II. PREPARE FOR **TIMES** OF TEMPTATION (4:1a, 2)

A. It occurred during a time of being in the **will of God** (4:1a)

“Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,”
Luke 4:1

B. It occurred during a time of **weakness** (4:1b, 2)

“Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”
Matthew 26:41

III. UNDERSTAND THE **CATEGORIES** OF TEMPTATION (4:3-10)

“15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”
I John 2:15-17

A. **Hedonism** is the “lust of the flesh” (vs.3-4).

Jesus was hungry. Therefore, Satan used a natural physical desire to approach Him and He responded with Deuteronomy 8:3 to show that spiritual priorities come before physical needs. The issue here was timing. It would have been wrong for Jesus to eat at a time when the Father wanted Him to fast.

B. **Materialism** is the “lust of the eyes” (vs.5-7).

Satan had quoted Psalm 91:11-12, but left off the important words, *“in all thy ways.”* This Psalm teaches that God gives protection only while you are in the will of God. In response, Jesus quotes Deuteronomy 6:16.

The strategy of Satan was to get Jesus to miraculously come down upon the people so they would be attracted to Him. At this point, Jesus was not to do the supernatural, but the natural. Therefore, this would have been foolish.

C. **Egoism** is the “the pride of life” (vs.8-10).

This time, Satan offered something he couldn’t give, which is the power to rule the world. Jesus responds quoting Deuteronomy 6:13 and 10:20.

Note: Satan’s temptations of **Eve** and **Jesus** were of the same **nature** (see Genesis 3:1-5).

“lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices...”
II Corinthians 2:11