

The Life and Mission of Jesus Christ on Earth

Lesson Five -- Matt. 4:1-11 (Mk. 1:12,13; Luke 4:1-13; Jn. 1:29-51)

Summary of Lesson

In this lesson we begin the study of the life of Christ as He prepares to enter His ministry. Immediately after His baptism, Jesus was led into the wilderness to be tempted for a period of forty days, during which Satan used all three avenues of temptation on Jesus -- the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the vainglory of life. All three efforts in tempting Jesus failed, as Jesus answered each of them with the scriptures ("it is written") and refrained from sinning (see Heb. 4:15). After His temptation He came back to Bethabara where John was preaching, testifying to his hearers concerning the deity of Jesus (John 1:29-36). On this occasion Jesus met some who would become His disciples.

*Matt. 4:1-11

{1} Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. {2} And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. {3} Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." {4} But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" {5} Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, {6} 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.'" {7} Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'" {8} Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. {9} And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." {10} Then 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.'" {11} Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

Mark 1:12,13

{12} Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. {13} And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to Him.

Luke 4:1-13

{1} Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, {2} being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. {3} And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." {4} But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'" {5} Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. {6} And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. {7} "Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours." {8} And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'" {9} Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. {10} "For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you,' {11} "and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" {12} And Jesus answered and said to him, "It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'" {13} Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

John 1:29-51

(John 1:29-51) The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! {30} "This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' {31} "I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." {32} And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. {33} "I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' {34} "And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God." {35} Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. {36} And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" {37} The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. {38} Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?" {39} He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour). {40} One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. {41} He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). {42} And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone). {43} The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." {44} Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. {45} Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote; Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." {46} And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." {47} Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" {48} Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." {49} Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" {50} Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." {51} And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Questions on Lesson Five

1. What the meaning of Simon's new name?
2. In what way did Jesus meet each of the three avenues of temptation offered by Satan?
3. Who ministered unto Christ after His temptation?
4. For how long did Satan depart from Jesus after His temptation?
5. What is the meaning of "Rabbi"?
6. When Nathaniel came to Jesus, what did Jesus say to him? (What does this tell us about Jesus? See John 2:24,25.)
7. What did Satan promise to give Jesus if He would worship Him?
8. What was with Jesus during His forty days of temptation?
9. Whom did Andrew tell Peter he had found?
10. By what shall man live?
11. By whom was Jesus driven into the wilderness?
12. Why did Nathaniel doubt that Philip had found the Messiah?
13. At what hour did the two disciples of John who began to follow Jesus decide to abide with Jesus?
14. Unto what two places did Satan take Jesus?
15. What did Jesus promise Nathaniel that he should see?
16. Whom only should men serve?
17. Unto what did Jesus change Simon's name?
18. Why did John say that he came "baptizing in water"?