

# Lord, Teach Us to Pray: The Lord is Our Deliverer

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher - September 14, 2008

## Matthew 4:1-11

1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The tempter came to him and said, "**If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.**" 4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 6 "**If you are the Son of God, he said, 'throw yourself down.** For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" 7 Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 "**All this I will give you, he said, 'if you will bow down and worship me.'**" 10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" 11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

## 1. THE BATTLE IS REAL.

Matt 6:13

"And lead us not into temptation, but **deliver us from the evil one.**"

## 2. SATAN IS THE ENEMY AND HE WANTS TO DESTROY YOU.

John 10:10

The thief comes only to **steal** and **kill** and **destroy**; I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly (to the full).

Eph 6:12

For **our struggle is not against flesh and blood**, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

1 Peter 5:8-9

8 Be self-controlled and alert. **Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.** 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith...

Luke 22:31-32

31 "Simon, Simon, **Satan has asked to sift you as wheat.** 32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail..."

## 3. SATAN TEMPTS US WHEN AND WHERE WE ARE MOST VULNERABLE – AND NO ONE IS EXEMPT.

Matthew 4:1

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert **to be tempted by the devil.**

Jesus was tempted with...

- **Physical Desires** (Matt 4:2)
- **Pride & Ambition** (Matt 4:6)
- **Idolatry** (Matt 4:9)

## 4. TEMPTATION IS NOT SIN.

Hebrews 4:15-16

15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have **one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.** 16 Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; **he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.** But when you are tempted, **he will also provide a way out** so that you can stand up under it.

James 4:7

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

## 5. SATAN'S TEMPTATIONS CAN SEEM REASONABLE AND EVEN SCRIPTURAL.

Satan knows and quotes scripture. The problem is that he perverts and distorts truth for his own purposes.

6. THE LORD IS OUR DELIVERER AND OUR WEAPON IS THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT (THE WORD OF GOD).

Ephesians 6:13-17

13 Therefore put on the **full armor of God**, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the **belt of truth** buckled around your waist, with the **breastplate of righteousness** in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the **gospel of peace**. 16 In addition to all this, take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the **helmet of salvation** and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God.

In response to each temptation Jesus proclaimed, "It is written"