



# KINGDOM CHARACTER

“KINGDOMS IN CONFLICT”

MATTHEW 4:1-11

- I. INTRODUCTION: CONTEXT “THIS IS MY BELOVED SON...” (3:17)
- A. Voice from heaven...authenticating the King and the kingdom He will offer (4:17)
  - B. The King is anointed \_\_\_\_\_ by the Spirit authenticating to the Jew His holy office (3:16)
    - 1. Anointed by constraining love (2 Cor. 5:14)...Beloved Son!
    - 2. Anointed by love’s \_\_\_\_\_ and internal hope (Ro. 5:5)...we are dearly beloved
    - 3. Anointed with the strength of God’s theocratic power (Ro. 8:31-32)
      - a. Theocracy: God alone is Sovereign King (Isa. 43:13)...empowerment
      - b. Power with joy...God in you = en-theos...enthusiasm, with love! (Acts)
- II. INSTRUCTION: (4:1-11)...KINGDOM OF DARKNESS VS. KINGDOM OF LIGHT (GEN. 3:15)
- A. “Then” ...after God anoints Him as King/Son...v1
    - 1. Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ and leads to the battle in the wilderness (I Jn. 4:4)
      - a. Cf. Moses and Elijah testings/temptations
      - b. Prince of Peace vs. prince of this \_\_\_\_\_ (I Jn. 5:19)
      - c. To prove Christ to be the sinless Redeemer...deity/ virgin birth
        - i. Truth vs. lies of slanderer
        - ii. Light vs. darkness of deceit and subtlety
    - 2. God proving His Gold (I Pe. 1:7)...\_\_\_\_\_ Christian life
  - B. “And when fasted 40 days, nights...v2
    - 1. Exhausted...when Satan comes...cf. David/Absalom/Ahithophel...
    - 2. Same time frame as Moses’ preparation...\_\_\_\_\_ in heart...meditation
    - 3. Hungry...His humanity...fully man/God...wept, etc.
    - 4. Temporarily veiled His glory (Phil. 2:7)
  - C. “And...tempter...if thou be...v3 (TEMPTATION #1: LUST OF THE FLESH – I JN. 2:15-16)
    - 1. If = since...Satan fully knew who He was...
    - 2. Command stones become bread...
      - a. God can turn stones to \_\_\_\_\_ He wants (3:9)
      - b. Remember He is the Bread of Life! (Jn. 6)
      - c. Temptation...baited hook (physical needs more important than spiritual)
        - i. Use power for selfish ends...shortcuts (Prov. 21:5)

- ii. Very reasonable request...God is hungry! (Isa. 33:16)
  - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ does not tempt (Jas. 1:17)...cf. Job
  - iv. Christ tempted in all ways, \_\_\_\_\_ sin (Heb. 4:15)
- D. "But...written" ...v4 (quotes Deut. 8:3)...wilderness temptations of Israelites...as God wanted them to learn to trust Him when hungry, as he fed them with manna (Jesus)
- 1. Our defense is always the same (2 Cor. 10:3-5)...a 2 edged sword (He. 4:12)
  - 2. Seek \_\_\_\_\_ His kingdom (6:33)...God takes care of all else...
    - a. Bread is good...#1 Jewish staple of life
    - b. But Bread of life is far better...BEST! (Prov. 30:5)
  - 3. Armor of God enables us to \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 6:10ff.)...put it on daily!
- E. "Then..." (**TEMPTATION #2: PRIDE OF LIFE – I JN. 2:15-16**)...patterns in Scriptures...v5-6
- 1. Taketh...many trips...setteth...many temptations (Heb. 4:15)
  - 2. Pinnacle...450 feet high (Josephus)...put on a show (charismatics, et. al.)
  - 3. Written...misquotes Word...(Ps. 91:11-12)
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_ God, not test Him
    - b. Cf. JW's and Calvinists who "wrest" Scriptures (2 Peter 3:16)
  - 4. Cast thyself down...cf. the cross...people believe you then...
    - a. Wicked generation seeks a \_\_\_\_\_ (16:4)
    - b. Miracle-mongers...
- F. "Written again" ...v7...same weapon...holy truths of perfect power (Ps. 12:6-7)
- 1. Quotes Deut. 6:16 where Jews tempted God at Massah
  - 2. Demanding Moses to produce water (Ex. 17:2-7)...not \_\_\_\_\_ God (Ps. 106:12-13)
  - 3. APPLICATION: God does not do command performances! (genie syndrome)
- G. "Taketh high mountain" ...v8-9...repeatedly...wear Him down! (**TEMPTATION #3: LUST OF THE EYES**)
- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ kingdoms of this world...prince of this world (Jn. 12:31; 14:30; 16:11)
    - a. God of this age/world...has much to offer (Eden)...appeals to flesh
    - b. 2 Cor. 4:4...trying to get us to worship/serve him (religion)
      - i. Forget the cross...America's cross-less "Christianity"
      - ii. Lk. 9:23...\_\_\_\_\_ the cost...salvation's free...not cheap
    - c. Dan. 10:13 – kingdom of Persia run by a demon, the Prince of Persia
  - 2. Satan's major weapon...just a little \_\_\_\_\_...(Eden)
    - a. Com-promise...word study
    - b. Stand to the side of the promise! (not on it)
    - c. "What harm does it do...?"
- H. "Get thee hence Satan" ...v10

1. Written...Deut. 6:13-14
  2. Testings in the wilderness so we know our own hearts
    - a. Forget your diabolical shortcuts Satan...
    - b. Sin is \_\_\_\_\_ pleasurable (Heb. 11:25)...choices reveal the heart
    - c. What we worship is what we serve with our time and treasures
  3. Armor is needed (Ps. 119:11; Isa. 29:13)...fear God not men/trials (Prov. 9 :10)
    - a. Submission must replace scorn to be fully protected by grace
    - b. Prov. 14:6
  4. We are a kingdom of priests called to serve/worship our King \_\_\_\_\_ (Ex. 1 9:6)
    - a. Cf. I Peter 2:5
    - b. Heb. 12:28-29
- I. "Then...angels came" ...v11
1. WOW...to Jesus! (Ps. 91:11-12...God's way/\_\_\_\_\_ timing)...Eccles.3:11
  2. Luke 22:43; Mt. 26:53
  3. THINK...angels ever minister to you...? (Eph. 3:20)