THE STORY CHAPTER 23

Jesus’ Ministry Begins

March 18-19, 2017

Appearing on the Big Screen…

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness 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 shall 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.

*Pg. 322; Matt. 4:1–11*

* serpent (Genesis 3:14; Revelation 12:9; 20:2)
* tempter (Matthew 4:3; 1 Thessalonians 3:5)
* enemy (Matthew 13:25, 39)
* evil one (Matthew 13:19; 1 John 2:13–14)
* prince of demons (Mark 3:22)
* father of lies (John 8:44)
* murderer (John 8:44)
* roaring lion (1 Peter 5:8)
* deceiver (Revelation 12:9 GWT)
* dragon (Revelation 12:7, 9; 20:2)

“I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.”

*Isaiah 14:13-14*

“Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings.”

*Ezekiel 28:17-18*

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

*1 John 3:8 ESV*

We are not ignorant of his schemes.

*2 Corinthians 2:11 NASB*

**Satan will:**

1. Attack **weak** spots first

“After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.”

*Matthew 4:2*

1. Raise a question about **identity**

“If you are the Son of God…”

*Matthew 4:3*

1. Tell you to show off in **church**

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God” he said, “throw yourself down.”

*Matthew 4: 5–6*

1. Promise **heights**

“The devil took him to a very high mountain…”

*Matthew 4: 8*

...and showed [Jesus] all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

*Matthew 4: 8–9*

**You should:**

1. Pray.
2. Arm yourself with God’s Word.

“It is written…” “It is also written…” “it is written…”

*Matthew 4: 4, 7, 10*

God's Word is an indispensable weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters.

*Ephesians 6:17-18 MSG*

God’s Spirit, who is in you, is greater than the devil, who is in the world.

*1 John 4:4 NCV*

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March 18-19, 2017

**To view The Story Chapter 23 sermon video,** [**CLICK HERE**](http://media.oakhillschurch.com/default.aspx?page=3679&item=575)

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