

Rumble in the Jungle

Round Two!

Matthew 4:5-7



**GOOD
VS
EVIL**

Matthew 4:5-6

“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. For it is written:

*“He will command his angels concerning you,
And they will lift up their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against
a stone.”*

Jesus Was Taken By Satan To The Highest Point Of The Temple of Jerusalem

- The ancient writer Josephus says that the highest point on the Jerusalem temple was high enough to make a man giddy just to look down

Beware Of High Places!

- **High places in career advancement and stature can be slippery places for Satan to bring you down**

God casts you down to raise you up

The devil raises you up so he can cast you down

- **High places in the church, prominent positions ordained of God can be used by Satan to bring you down (your gifts, talent, prestigious positions and reputation, should be *Clothed* with humility) 1 Peter 5:5**

Satan Says, *“If You’re the Son Of God, ... Jump!”*

What is the Issue That Faced Jesus and Us
In This Temptation?

Jesus, *“Don’t you believe in the word of God?”*(Psalms 91:11,12)

“...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,’ ”

(Imagine how popular Jesus would be)

What is Wrong With Satan Here and How Does It Apply To Me?

#1 Don't Be Surprised That The Devil Knows Scripture!

- It is possible for a man to have his head full of scriptural ideas and his mouth full of scriptural expressions while his heart is full of self.

(Matthew 15:7,8)

- The knowledge and misapplication of scripture can increase ones **recklessness!** (1 John 4:1, "*Beloved, believe not every spirit...*")

#2 Don't Be Surprised That The Devil "Misquotes Scripture!"

- He left an important phrase out of the original quote in the Old Testament while challenging Jesus to obey scripture and "JUMP"(Psalms 91:11)

***"For He shall give his angels charge over you,
To keep you in all your ways...."***

#3 When I Submit My Ways To God's Ways He Will Protect Me!

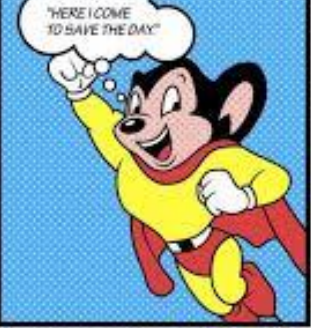
- Proverbs 16:7 *“When a man’s ways please the Lord, He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.”*
- Psalms 91: *“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most high shall abide under the shadow of the almighty.”*

What About Catastrophes and Disasters and Christians?

- Proverbs 14:32 *“The wicked are crushed by disaster, but the godly have a refuge when they die.”*
- Revelations 14:13 *“And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me write, Blessed are the dead which....”*

#4 When I Live Recklessly and Carelessly and Expect God to Bail Me Out When I'm In Trouble, (asking Jesus to Jump) I am Presuming (take for granted) the Grace Of God Which Has Been Shown to Me

- *“I'm chronically late to my job, but God's got my back, after all, I'm His child!”*
- *“I use weed every now and then but God has my back at work, after all, I'm His child!”*
- *The diabetic who refuses to take insulin when needed and argues that “God will take care of me” may be tempting the Lord*
- *“I sleep around sparingly but God knows my heart and He will take care of me!” (no unwanted pregnancy or infection)*



- When we put God to the test to fulfill our own lustful ambitions, He gives us no promise on which we can rest
- God should not be regarded as a safety net ready to rescue us from our reckless and irresponsible decisions
- Don't blame God when our harm is the result of our foolishness (like Adam did in Genesis)





- We often take for granted the convenience of a drive-thru restaurant, until for whatever reason, we have to park the car and go inside to get our low-quality burgers and fries
- At this point we start complaining
- Giving up control is difficult for us
- When we get ready for God to take over our lives, we still want to control how He does it (a drive-thru God)
- We're so used to calling our own shots, that we ask for God's help as long as we get it on our own terms
- We want and demand that the changes in our lives happen on our own timetable (The parable in Luke 12 proves we don't have a timetable)

***God Doesn't Have A Drive-Thru Window!
Humbly Submit to His Will!***

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38