

## The Saviour Comes and Begins His Work

**This week** – The Lord shows us how to successfully resist the Devil and his temptations.

**The Lord Jesus said, “It is written,  
Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God,  
and Him only shalt thou serve.”** *Matthew 4v10*

### Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Matthew 4v1-11 (The Lord resists the temptations of Satan)	
Monday	Matthew 4v12-25 (Jesus begins His preaching ministry)	
Tuesday	Hebrews 4v1-16 (The Lord fully understands us)	
Wednesday	John 1v1-18 (John the Baptist points to Jesus Christ)	
Thursday	John 1v18-34 (Behold The Lamb of God, God The Son)	
Friday	Ephesians 6v10-24 (Put on the whole armour of God)	
Saturday	James 3 (Wisdom that is from above is pure)	

**Important Lesson for us Today.** Is fear always sinful? Is there a righteous, good fear? **Much of our fear is sinful** because we needlessly worry over things which the Lord, who is stronger than all things, can deal with. We must exercise faith in Him no matter what. **As sinners we must fear God’s anger and the consequences of our sin. Fear of God is to respect Him.** Sin offends a Holy God, and it must be judged. What a blessing that we live in the Day of God’s grace. Although He is our Righteous Judge, He also offers to us His free mercy and forgiveness. God has sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to take our place under His wrath when He died to save sinners on the cross of Calvary. If our sins are covered by Christ’s substitutionary death on the cross, we are clothed in the righteousness of Christ and have nothing to fear on Judgement Day. He will present us without spot or blemish to His Father.

**What a wonderful Saviour God we have! Do not wait, come to Him now in repentance, obedient faith, love, and adoration!**

**Hymn 449** reminds us of the power of the Lord to save and protect us from sin and Satan.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Why should I fear the darkest hour,<br/>Or tremble at the tempter’s power?<br/>Jesus vouchsafes to be my tower.</p> <p>5. Though sin would fill me with distress,<br/>The Throne of Grace I dare address,<br/>For Jesus is my righteousness.</p> | <p>2. Though hot the fight, why quit the field?<br/>Why must I either fly or yield,<br/>Since Jesus is my mighty shield?</p> <p>7. Against me earth and hell combine;<br/>But on my side is power divine;<br/>Jesus is all, and He is mine.</p> |
|--|---|

## The Lord is Tempted by Satan.

- **Background** – Aged 30, The Lord starts His preaching ministry. **John 1.**
    - **John The Baptist** recognises the Lord as ‘*The Lamb of God*’, The sin-bearer.
    - **Jesus** is baptised in the river Jordan and calls His disciples to follow Him.
  - **We Need:** -
    - **A Sinless Saviour** – One Who is able to fully resist the Devil, and not sin.
      - As God and Man, the Lord is perfect. He has the power to fend off Satan.
    - **A Sympathetic Saviour** – He fully understands when we are tempted to sin.
      - As our Friend, our Mediator (standing for us before God’s Judgement Throne), and High Priest (offering His shed blood), He understands all our temptations.
    - **A Saviour to Follow** - The Lord Jesus shows us how to resist and defeat Satan.
  - **Satan Tempts The Lord:**
    - **‘Command these stones to be made bread’.** Satisfy your hunger. **Matthew 4v3**
      - As God and Man, the Lord refused to use His power for a selfish purpose. **But the Lord answered and said, “It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”** **Matthew 4v4.**
    - **‘Cast Thyself down’.** ‘Let us see if Your Father will save You.’ **Matthew 4v6.**
      - Satan quotes scripture and mis-applies it. He is the father of lies and deceit. **Jesus said unto him, “It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.”** **v7.**
    - **‘Fall down and worship me’.** I will reward you. **Matthew 4v9.**
      - Satan offered the Lord the world. It was not his to give. It was already Christ’s. **Jesus saith unto him, “Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve.”** **Matthew 4v10.**
  - **The Lord Jesus, shows us how to respond to Satan’s temptations:** -
    - **Resist the Devil.** When temptation comes to us, say, “Go away Satan.” **Reject Satan’s whispers of, “There is no God”, “One little sin does no harm.”**
    - **Believe God and Obey His Word.** Quickly turn to God’s promises of help. **The Lord used scripture to reply in all three occasions of Satan’s temptation.**
    - **Refuse To Compromise.** We must not do deals with Satan. **Reject him. Avoid these thoughts, ‘I know that Christ died to save but I can love God and my sin.’ ‘It is OK to half obey Satan and enjoy my sin.’ God rejects those with this attitude.**
    - **Tempted, Yet Without Sin.** The Lord remained perfect. He could not have successfully died to save us from the guilt of our sin, if He had sinned. **The Lord, during His earthly life, suffered much at the hands of Satan. Satan tried to stop the Lord dying on Calvary: he did not want you to be saved. “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding.” Proverbs 3v5**
- “Wherefore He, (Jesus Christ), is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.”** **Hebrews 7v25.**