



THE KINGDOM

*I expect the Battle of Britain is about to begin.
Upon this battle depends the survival of
Christian civilization. Upon it depends our own
British life... Hitler knows that he will have to
break us in this island or lose the war...*

*Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties
and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire
and its commonwealth last for a thousand
years, men will still say,
‘This was their finest hour.’”*

Sir Winston Churchill

The fight is here; I need ammunition, not a ride,

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky

Times of testing reveal
who a leader really is
and shape how we see them.

From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Matthew 4:17 NIV

The kingdom had come near
because the king had come near.

There would be no neutral ground.

The King is Tested

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

Matthew 4:1 NIV

Temptation is the moment when
what you *want* to do is in conflict
with what you *should* do.

**Temptation is the moment
when we consider trading
what we want most in the future
for what we want right now.**

**Temptation is the invitation to make
my greatest interest, self-interest.**

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

Matthew 4:2 NIV

Pay attention to the
4 W's of temptation.

Who, What, When, Where

The tempter came to him and said,
“If you are the Son of God, tell these
stones to become bread.”

Matthew 4:3 NIV

Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands.

Deuteronomy 8:2 NIV

He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 8:3 NIV

Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Matthew 4:4 NIV

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple.

Matthew 4:5 NIV

**“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.””**

Matthew 4:6 NIV

Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Matthew 4:7 NIV

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor.

Matthew 4:8 NIV

“All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

Matthew 4:9 NIV

Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

Matthew 4:10 NIV

Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Matthew 4:11 NIV

Jesus refused to make his greatest
interest his own self-interest.

His greatest interest was us.

Our King died for sinners.

Our King defeated sin.

Our King gives sinners
victory over sin.

**In the moment of temptation
you never know what may be
hanging in the balance.**

If you've given into temptation, it's never too late to walk away from sin.

There is a path that leads us into temptation and there is a path that leads us out of temptation.

Every time you walk away from
temptation you are following Jesus.

Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people.

Hebrews 2:17 NIV

Since he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested.

Hebrews 2:18 NIV

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

Hebrews 4:14 NIV

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

Hebrews 4:15 NIV

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hebrews 4:16 NIV