

The First Coming of King Jesus Part 12: The Victory of the King

The First Coming of King Jesus Part 13: The Light of the King

December 24 & 25, 2022

Matthew 4: 1-11 & 4:12-17

December 24, 2022: The Victory of the King:

Basic Facts of the Passage: Jesus was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan. Jesus demonstrated He was Lord and Servant of the Father. Jesus was tempted to operate outside the will of God. But, Jesus couldn't sin because He was God and Jesus can't sin as a man empowered by the Holy Spirit.

3 Ways to think about the passage:

- 1) **Jesus as an example for us:** passage used as a moral lesson on how we should respond to temptation and on how we shouldn't forget there are spiritual things. 1 Jn. 2:16 and Gen. 3:6 lay out the human temptations in three parts: lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh, and the pride of life.
- 2) **The Point of the Passage: Jesus is representative of Israel:** Jesus is referred to in Is. 49:3 as "My Servant Israel." He spent 40 days in the wilderness likened to Israel's 40 years. From Deut. 8:3, God provided manna because man lives by the words that proceed out of the mouth of God. We do not test God, Deut. 6:16. There are not other gods by Yahweh, Deut. 6:13-14. In all cases Satan's temptations tempted Israel of the past but not Jesus, the perfect Israelite.
- 3) **Most Important Reason: Jesus is the qualified, future, all powerful Emperor of Planet Earth:** His message: Matt. 3:2 & 4:17. His qualifications: a) Personally righteous, sinless, loyal to God. b) He demonstrated He is Son of David and will sit on David's throne forever, Matt. 1:1. Jesus' mission was not to gather all Israel in one big movement, but to gather individuals one by one. c) Jesus is Abraham's Son or Seed of promise, Gen. 12, 15, 17, & 22. All nations of the earth would be blessed through Abraham, Matt. 1, confirms Jesus' lineage. The temptation against Jesus was futile because all the earth already belonged to Jesus, Satan didn't want Jesus to go to the cross.
>>> Jewish shepherds were qualified by repentance to identify with the Son of David.
>>> Gentile wise men were qualified by repentance to identify with the Son of Abraham.
>>> Jesus qualified both Jew and Gentile, by faith in Him.

December 25, 2022: The Light of the King:

In reference to Is. 9:1-2, Israel is going to have darkness for their disobedience and idolatry. Assyria, Babylon, Medes & Persians, and Greeks will destroy Israel in the coming 7 centuries. Isaiah prophesies to Ahaz that Assyria is coming to judge Israel, and Israel will be driven to darkness, Is. 8:22. But a "great light" is coming to the world as promised by God in chapter 9:1-2.

>>>Is. 9:1-7, starts with a loud proclamation, a soft interval, and a crescendo ending:

The Loud Proclamation: V1-5, the passage written in prophetic prose, with present and future tenses of verbs and events, to be delivered to the reader as certain of fulfillment either past, present, or future. V1, Zebulun and Naphtali are the northern tribes invaded and attacked by Syria and Assyria. Jews and Gentiles lived together in Galilee (Is. 9:1). V4, as Gideon defeated the Midianites with 300 men armed with torches, clay jars, and trumpets in Judges 7:22, so God will route His enemies and their garments will be used for fuel and fire. V3, Messiah is the light coming to the earth. Messiah is coming suddenly and bringing relief from oppression upon Israel like Gideon.

The Soft Interval: Who is the Messiah? A Child is born to man (Mary) and a Son is given (to us by the Father). Jesus is the God Man and the Branch of righteousness from God, Is. 4:2, Jer. 23. Is. 4:2, Jesus is of the fruit of the earth (born of man) and Branch of the Lord. Jesus adding man to His Deity. Jesus is the perfect mediator, the perfect sacrifice, the perfect example, one with a redeemed body, perfectly sympathetic as a human, will be a man forever and will always have divine and human nature, eternally, together.

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The Crescendo: Begins in V6 and in V7, dominion of the earth is upon Messiah alone. Is. 2:4, He will judge between nations, end war, and bring peace to the earth.

- a) Wonderful Counselor: a supernatural counselor, needs no wisdom, example: Jn. 7:14-15.
- b) Might God: Ps. 24:8, strong and mighty and mighty in battle, see also Zech. 14:12.
- c) Everlasting Father: the eternal nature of the Messiah will reflect the Father, Jn. 14:9, Ps. 68:5, 103:13. Jesus our mediator and express image of the Father, Heb. 1:1-3.
- d) Prince of Peace: a prince who rules with peace, brings peace, justice, and righteousness. He sits on the throne of David, ruling with eternal peace.
- e) No End of Increase: V7, from shepherds, to a few disciples, to 120, to 500, to 3,000. Then adding daily to the number of believers continuing for 2,000 years up to today. Zech. 14:9, the Lord will be King over all the earth. Jesus will gather all His saints of the OT and NT bringing them into His eternal kingdom, Rev. 19.
- f) With zeal: or heated jealousy of the Lord. The Lord of the armies of heaven (Hosts) will do it.

Light is what Jesus brought to earth, Is. 9:2, Matt. 4:16, Luke 1:79, Jn. 1:4-5, 3:19, 8:12, 12:35, Acts 26:18, Rom. 13:12, Eph. 5:8, 1 Thess. 5:5, 1 Pet. 2:9, 1 Jn. 1:5.

Further Discussion and Application

What was the result of Jesus coming in the likeness of man and giving His life as a sacrifice to atone for the sins of the world? Why are Gentiles blessed by this divine exchange? In what ways does God reveal His eternal plan to save Jews and Gentiles through Jesus?

As you examine the passages in this sermon (and other ones during this series in Matthew) how does God reveal His will and confirm His plan to send a Savior for all peoples? Now consider the extent of time used to reveal this plan to us. Genesis written by Moses in 1400 BC, Isaiah written in ~700 BC, Jesus' writings and teachings revealed by the Holy Spirit and declared to us in the Gospels and epistles of the NT from AD 40-100. All of these were written that we might believe on the Lord Jesus and turn from our sin being forgiven by the blood of Jesus and washed and regenerated by the Spirit. What anchor(s) keep(s) us firmly connected to the Lord?

God has demonstrated His faithfulness to keep His word and His promises to give us a Child and deliver to us a Son. How does Jesus meet the requirements needed to satisfy God's wrath through His sacrifice on the cross?

What I see is a God who has plainly given sufficient evidence to declare the righteousness, worthiness, and honor due His Son. What have you seen during this exposition of Matthew 1-4?