

TEMPTED

Temptation #3 - Authority

...to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. (Jude 25)

The tempter's third lure – authority...

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give to you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." (Matt. 4:8-9)

- ***The lure: over-selling personal power – "All this I will give to you..." (v. 9)***

The Most High God is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and sets over them anyone he wishes. (Dan. 5:21)

- ***The compromise: bow the knee to the wrong "authority" – "...if you will bow down and worship me." (v. 9)***

The heart of the temptation: will I build my kingdom or worship my King?

Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'" Then the devil left Him, and angels came and attended to Him. (vv. 10-11)

All things have been handed over to me by my Father... (Luke 10:22)

☞ ***The question(s) of worship: "my will or thy will? In authority or under authority?"***

"Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?" (Luke 6:46)

Satan offered his entire empire to keep Jesus from the will of the Father – the cross...

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man...must be killed and after three days rise again...He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. But when Jesus turned and looked at His disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" He said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." (Mark 8:31-33)

God's kingdom: raise up the humble to knock down the prideful...

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...He humbled Himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross! Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth... (Phil. 2:5, 8-10)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. (Matt. 6:9-10)