

Title: Fear or Faith  
Pastor: Lucille May  
Date: 14 December 2008  
Time: 18h00



### Matthew 4:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. <sup>3</sup> Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." <sup>4</sup> But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" <sup>5</sup> Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. 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.'" <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'" <sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup> And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'" <sup>11</sup> Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

#### 1. Stones to bread

**Fear:** lack of provision

### Philippians 4:6-7

<sup>6</sup> Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; <sup>7</sup> and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

**Deception:** God's power is at our disposal any time we need it.

#### 2. Pinnacle of the temple

**Fear:** annihilation

### Daniel 3:17-18

<sup>17</sup> If that *is the case*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver *us* from your hand, O king. <sup>18</sup> But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.

### Hebrews 12:4

<sup>4</sup> You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.

**Deception:** take risks, God will bail you out.

#### 3. Kingdoms of the world

### Matthew 10:24-26

<sup>24</sup> A disciple is not above *his* teacher, nor a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup> It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household! <sup>26</sup> Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

**Fear:** rejection

**Deception:** live for **now**, you can be popular here and in the hereafter.

#### **Jude 4**

<sup>4</sup> For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **Titus 1:16a**

<sup>16</sup> They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him,

#### **Jude 12a**

<sup>12</sup> These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving *only* themselves.

#### **I Timothy 6:12a**

<sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life...

### **Seek the Lord**

#### **Hebrews 4:9-11**

<sup>9</sup> There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. <sup>10</sup> For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God *did* from His. <sup>11</sup> Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.

#### **Psalms 32:8**

<sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

#### **II Corinthians 3:18**

<sup>18</sup> But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.