

Jesus' First Temptation

Handout #3

And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he 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. (Matt. 4:2-4; KJV)

*all (page numbers) are from Manton's *Works*, volume 1

I. Introduction

1. The Occasion

2. The Temptation

3. Christ's Answer

II. The Occasion: "And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred"

1. His Fasting

2. His Hunger
 - 2.1. Conjunctly

 - 2.2. Distinctly
 - 2.2.1. Forty days

 - 2.2.2. Satan's strategy

III. The Temptation: "And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread"

1. The Intimation of His Address
 - 1.1. In what manner the tempter came to Christ

 - 1.2. How he is said to come to him

2. The Proposal of the Temptation

IV. Christ's Answer: "But he 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"

1. A Concession

2. A Restriction
 - 2.1. In what manner the tempter came to Christ
 - 2.1.1. Some: word of precept

 - 2.1.2. Some: word of promise

 - 2.1.3. Manton: providential word

V. Observations

1. That God May Leave His Children and Servants to Great Straits

2. That the Devil Maketh an Advantage of Our Necessities
 - 2.1. He tempteth us to unlawful means to satisfy our hunger

 - 2.2. He tempteth us to question our adoption

 - 2.3. He tempteth us to draw us to a diffidence and distrust of God's providence

3. In Tempting, Satan Pretendeth to Help the Tempted Partly to a Better Condition

4. That Satan's First Temptations are More Plausible

5. There is No Way to Defeat Satan's Temptations but by a Sound Belief in God's All-Sufficiency, and the Nothingness of the Creature
 - 5.1. A sound belief of, and a dependence on, God's all-sufficiency

 - 5.2. The nothingness of the creature