

Rumble In The Jungle

Round Two

Part Two

Matthew 4:6-7



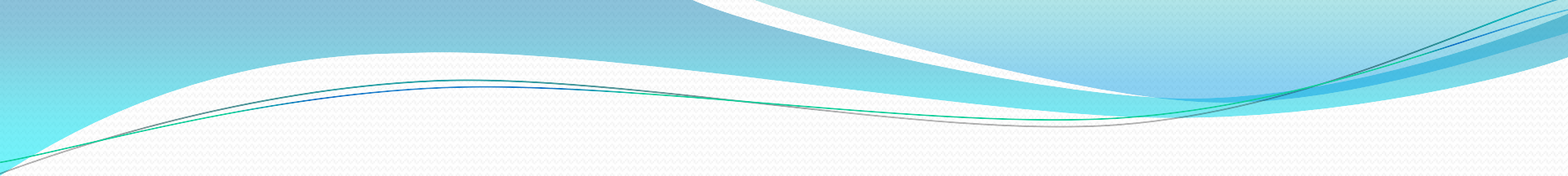
The Plot

- So Satan takes Jesus up to the pinnacle of the temple of Jerusalem and challenges Him to Jump, as if to say: *“You do believe scripture don’t you?”*
- *“It is written, He will command His angels concerning you,’ and on their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”*
- *“Jesus, put your money where your mouth is.”*
- *“Don’t you trust your daddy to take care of you if He said He would?”*

The Answer

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

- **Jesus again answers Satan with scripture, found in a story in Exodus 17:1-7**

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- The children of Israel were being led by Moses, and set up camp at a place called Rephidim; apparently, there was no water in sight
 - So the children of Israel demanded that Moses give them water (they had received bread or manna in chapter 16).
 - They quarreled with Moses, accusing him of leading them out in the wilderness to die (like he didn't know what he was doing)

- Moses argued with the people and said in verse 2 of Exodus 17, “*Why do you quarrel with me, why do you put God to the test?*”
- The Bible says that Moses cried out to the Lord, because, he says, they were almost ready to kill him
- God told Moses Go before the people of Israel and take some of the leaders with you and the staff that you used at the Nile and stand by the rock at Horeb and I will be with you, and strike the rock and water will come out

- That is exactly what happened the Bible says, and Moses named the place “Massah” which means “testing place” and “Meribah” which means “quarreling,” because the Bible says in verse 4 of Exodus 17, “they tested the Lord saying, ***“Is the Lord among us or not?”***”

- To test God is to doubt God, and to doubt God is to not trust God, and to not trust God is sin, which is exactly what Satan wanted Jesus to do
- So if Jesus had tested or doubted God, He would have separated Himself from God and therefore subverted His divine plan for redeeming mankind (yours and my soul was at stake in this *rumble!*)

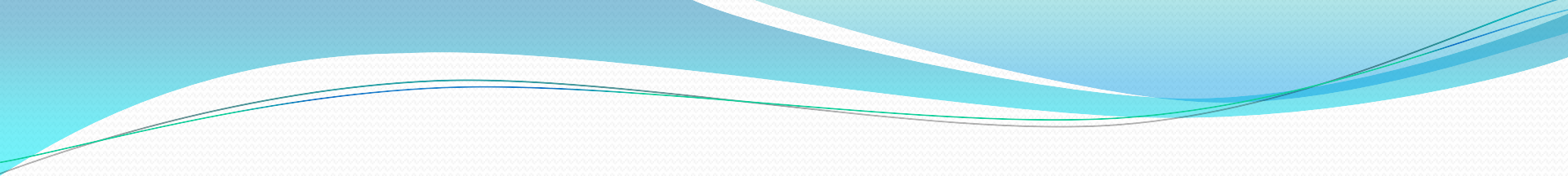
So What Does It Mean To Tempt God?

To demand that He prove himself over and over again
Remember what proofs the Israelites already had
The ten plagues of Egypt
The crossing of the Red Sea
Water from a Rock
Manna or bread for which they did not toil

***If We Count Our Blessings Continually, We Will Discover
The Proofs We Have Already Experienced!***

Do We Tempt The Lord Too?

- He says *“I am with you till the end of the world.”* and we say, *“I know that, (Matt. 28:20) but are you with me right now?!”*
- He says, *“I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.”* and we say, *“I know that scripture too, (Hebrews 13:5) but are you with me when I see the doctor tomorrow, or my wife does, my children, my finances, our circumstances ?!”*

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- Don't live a reckless life, practicing questionable habits, and expect God to be your safety net
 - Trying to figure out how much sin God will “let us get away with” is testing God
 - Jesus challenges us to be totally committed to Him
 - God wants to be believed, trusted and acknowledged for who He is (Hebrews 11:6)

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38