



## Matthew: Portraits of the King - Week 4

### *Arrival of the King*

### **“How to Beat a Triple Team”**

#### **Matthew 3:16-17 (NIV)**

*As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.”*

#### **Matthew 4:1-11 (NIV)**

*Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”*

*<sup>4</sup> Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”*

*<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup> “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: “He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”*

*<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”*

*<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of*

*the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup> “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”*

*<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”*

*<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.*

### **Three Truths from the Battle in the Wilderness:**

1. Jesus is our representative.
  - Jesus’ victory in the wilderness avenges Adam’s loss in the garden.
  - You were not in the wilderness with Jesus, but Jesus was in the wilderness for you.
2. Jesus shows us the cross always precedes the crown.
  - The wilderness is not a punishment, but a proving ground.

### **James 1:2-3 (NIV)**

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup> because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.*

- God’s pattern for our lives often times starts with a struggle and ends with glory.

### **1 Peter 5:10 (HCSB)**

*Now the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will personally restore, establish, strengthen, and support you after you have suffered a little.*

- Every shortcut to glory that bypasses the cross is a deal with the devil.

3. Jesus’ victory over Satan leaves us a blueprint for winning our daily battles.

- You can't have spiritual success until you are aware of the "Scout."
- The triple team of temptation is the flesh, the world and the enemy himself.

**How to beat a triple team:**

1. Be full of the Spirit.
2. Be full of the Word.
3. Be focused on the Father's will.

**Philippians 2:13 (NIV)**

*for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose.*

**Romans 8:11**

*And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of His Spirit who lives in you.*

- We must have an 'it is written' for each 'I know I shouldn't.'