MATTHEW

Advent of the Ring



Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.""

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.' ⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." 10 Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.' 11 Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

In Jesus's temptation, we see:

- 1. His Sympathy as our Brother
- 2. His Example as our Captain
- 3. His Triumph as our King

1. Jesus' Sympathy as our Brother

Matt. 4:1-11; Heb. 4:14-16

1. Jesus' Sympathy as Our Brother

a. The setting of his temptations

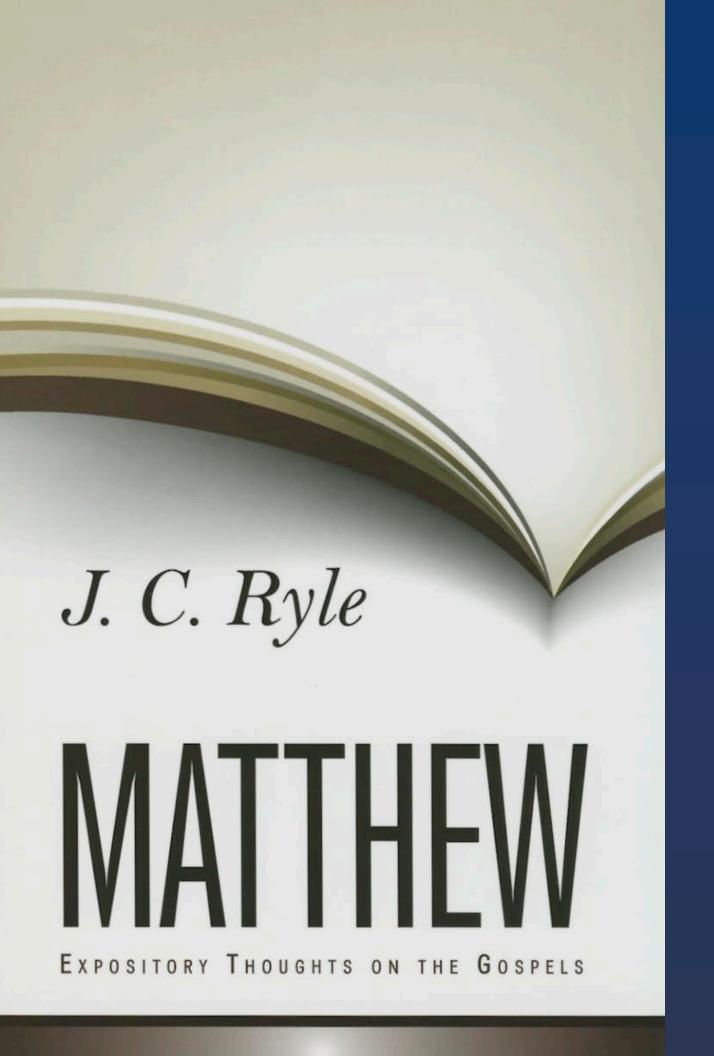
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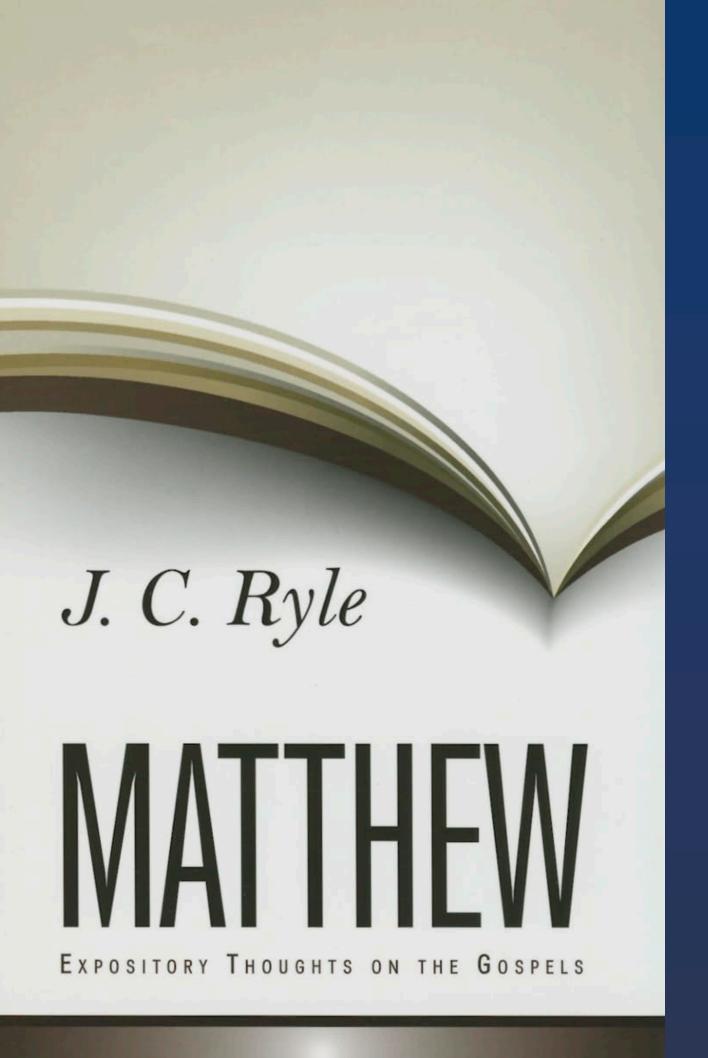
b. The scope of his temptations

Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.



The sympathy of Jesus is a truth which ought to be peculiarly dear to all believers. They will find in it a mine of strong consolation. They should never forget, that they have a mighty Friend in heaven, who feels for them in all their temptations, and can enter into all their spiritual anxieties. Are they ever tempted by Satan to distrust God's care and goodness? So was Jesus. Are they ever tempted to presume on God's mercy, and run into danger without warrant? So also was Jesus.



Are they ever tempted to commit some one great private sin for the sake of some great seeming advantage? So also was Jesus. Are they ever tempted to listen to some misapplication of Scripture, as an excuse for doing wrong? So also was Jesus. He is just the Savior that a tempted people require. Let them flee to Him for help, and spread before Him all their troubles. They will find His ear ever ready to hear, and His heart ever ready to feel He can understand their sorrows.

—J. C. Ryle

1. Jesus' Sympathy as our Brother

Matt. 4:1-11; Heb. 4:14-16

2. Jesus' Example as our Captain

Matthew 4:1-11

3. Jesus' Example as Our Captain

How did Jesus defeat the temptations of enemy?

a) He depended on the Spirit's power

3. Jesus' Example as Our Captain

How did Jesus defeat the temptations of enemy?

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- b) He practiced the spiritual disciplines



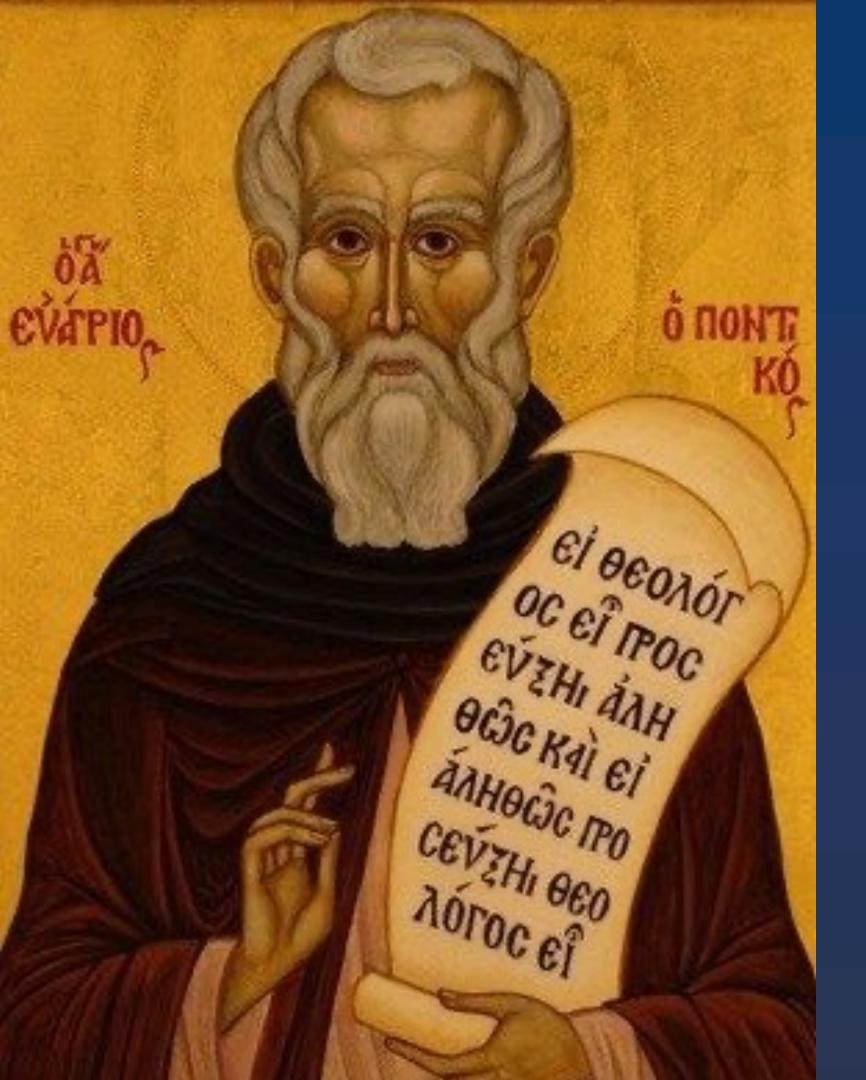
Jesus did not possess any special means of spiritual growth which are not available to us. It is essential to realize this if we are to understand Jesus, if we are to become like him.

—Sinclair Ferguson

3. Jesus' Example as Our Captain

How did Jesus defeat the temptations of enemy?

- a) He depended on the Spirit's power
- b) He practiced the spiritual disciplines
- c) He knew, quoted, and obeyed the Scriptures



Evagrius Ponticus

The 4th century desert father, who wrote a treatise on the "Eight Thoughts" (demons / sins) called "Antirrhetikos" or "Talking Back."

3. Jesus' Example as Our Captain

How did Jesus defeat the temptations of enemy?

- a) He depended on the Spirit's power
- b) He practiced the spiritual disciplines
- c) He knew, quoted, and obeyed the Scriptures
- d) He worshiped God alone

2. Jesus' Example as our Captain

Matthew 4:1-11

3. Jesus' Triumph as our King

Matthew 4:1-11

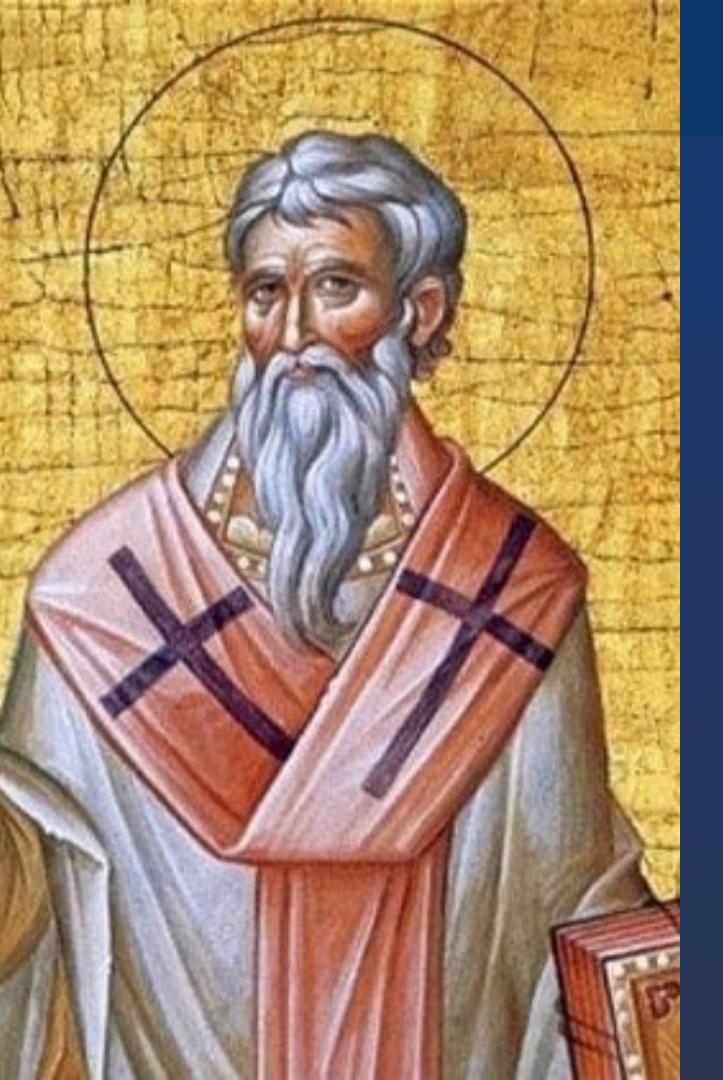
3. Jesus' Triumph as Our King

a. Jesus as the New Israel

3. Jesus' Triumph as Our King

a. Jesus as the New Israel

b. Jesus as the Second Adam



When [the Son of God] became incarnate, and was made man, He . . . furnished us . . . with salvation; so that he might recover in Christ Jesus what we had lost in Adam . . . For He fought and conquered . . . for He bound the strong man, and set free the weak, and endowed His own handiwork with salvation, by destroying sin . . . Wherefore also He passed through every stage of life, restoring to all communion with God . . . God recapitulated in Himself the ancient formation of man, that He might kill sin, deprive death of its power, and vivify man; and therefore His works are true.

—Irenaeus of Lyons

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