Learning from Jesus

Matthew 4:1-11

Every Christian will go through trials and temptations along life’s way. Being born again doesn’t stop this sin-cursed world from affecting us. Christians face the same things that the lost face, in fact even more. What separates Christians and the lost in this regard is that as Christians we have hope and joy in our hearts, clear direction from the word of God, and help from the Holy Spirit. Jesus went through trials, temptations, and everything else this world has to throw at a person, so what better example is there to learn from than Him.

In Chapter 4 of Matthew, Jesus is tempted by the devil himself, and studying it we can learn a lot about how to face our problems of life. First, in verse 1, the Bible says, “Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.” We see here that Jesus wasn’t blindsided by temptation or the devil, He was led by the spirit. As long as we are letting the Holy Spirit lead us, we too shouldn’t be blindsided by our trials and temptations, we should actually expect them. In John 16:33 it says, “In the world ye shall have tribulation.” Jesus tells us that we will have tribulation in this world! 1 Peter 4:12 “Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you.” As born-again Christians we need to remember these things and be prepared when trials come our way, instead of thinking God doesn’t love us and going to find a juniper tree to hide under and feel sorry for ourselves.

Now that we know we will face trials and temptations; how do we fight against them and get victory? In Matthew 4:3-10 the Bible shows us that every time the devil temps Jesus, He quotes scripture. Again, and again the devil would tempt Him; and again, and again Jesus quoted scripture to him. To get victory over our trials we must be prepared just like Jesus was, we must know our Bible. Too many Christians do not take the time to study the Bible for themselves. Hosea Chapter 4 says “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.” Isaiah 5:13 “Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honorable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst.” Let us learn from Jesus and be ready for our trials and temptations, by being led of the Holy Spirit and by reading our Bibles and hiding the words in our hearts so we can fight the devil when he attacks us.

Now for the good news. Yes, we will face trials, troubles, and temptations; and it is a hard thing to go through. They will wear you out and beat you down. Even when we are prepared, they will leave you exhausted; however, we have hope. Matthew 4:11 “Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.” Learning from Jesus in these verses of the Bible we find we must be led by the Holy Spirit in our walk. We need to be aware of the trails and temptations that are coming our way. We need to be ready and armed with the holy scriptures when they do come. After we get the victory, we need to remember they will pass, and God will give us healing.