

Matthew 4:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Analysis

Jesus' command 'Get thee hence, Satan' demonstrates His authority over the devil. The rebuke 'for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve' (Deuteronomy 6:13) exposes the temptation's essence—idolatry. Satan offered earthly kingdoms in exchange for worship, but Jesus came to gain those kingdoms through the cross, not compromise. Worship and service are inseparable.

Historical Context

This third temptation offered a shortcut to Jesus' Messianic kingdom without the cross. Satan, as 'god of this world' (2 Corinthians 4:4), could legitimately offer earthly dominion. Jesus' refusal shows His commitment to the Father's redemptive plan despite its suffering.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What 'kingdoms' does Satan offer you in exchange for compromising worship of God?
2. How does Jesus' example strengthen you to resist shortcuts to God's promises?

Interlinear Text

Τότε	λέγει	αὐτῷ	ὁ	Ἰησοῦς	Ὑπάγε	Σατανᾶ·	
Then	saith	him	G3588	Jesus	Get thee hence	Satan	
G5119	G3004	G846		G2424	G5217	G4567	
γέγραπται	γάρ,	Κύριον	τὸν	Θεόν	σου	προσκυνήσεις	καὶ
it is written	for	the Lord	G3588	God	thy	Thou shalt worship	and
G1125	G1063	G2962		G2316	G4675	G4352	G2532
αὐτῷ	μόνῳ	λατρεύσεις					
him	only	shalt thou serve					
G846	G3441	G3000					

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 10:20 (References God): Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God; him shalt thou serve, and to him shalt thou cleave, and swear by his name.

Joshua 24:14 (References God): Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.

Luke 4:8 (Worship): And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

1 Samuel 7:3 (References God): And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the

LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.

James 4:7 (References God): Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 Peter 5:9 (Parallel theme): Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

Matthew 16:23 (References God): But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Job 2:1 (References God): Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD.

1 Chronicles 21:1 (Parallel theme): And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

Job 1:12 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.