

Subject: *Jesus and the Scriptures, Part 2*

Scripture: *Matthew 4:1-10*

There is a dynamic connection between Christ and the Bible. Jesus is the incarnate Word (the Word made flesh) and Scripture is the written Word. Jesus and the Bible are both divine and human. Jesus was fully God and fully man. The Scriptures are the very words of God written by human hands. Both Jesus and the Scriptures are perfect. Both Jesus and the Scriptures demonstrate the love of God, the grace of God, and the power of God.

Jesus had the greatest love and respect for the Scriptures. Jesus could have taught people without even mentioning the Scripture. After all, He was the Son of God and He had all authority. But He constantly pointed people to the Scripture because He wanted them to use it as their source of authority, belief, guidance, strength, and protection. How did Jesus use the Scriptures in His own life and ministry?

1. Jesus confirmed the authority and accuracy of Scripture

2. Jesus used Scripture to explain His life and ministry

3. Jesus used Scripture to correct misunderstanding and false teaching

4. Jesus used Scripture to defeat Satan

When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, He relied on the truth of Scripture. Three times Jesus quoted verses from Deuteronomy. Jesus knew the Scripture well because the devil quoted a verse and tried to get him to jump from the pinnacle of the temple. But Jesus knew that Satan was twisting and perverting the scripture and he would not fall for it. There is a big difference between faith and foolishness. God wants us to trust Him, but not to presume upon Him or put Him to the test.

- *Matthew 4:1-10* ¹ Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. ² And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. ³ And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. ⁴ But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. ⁵ Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. ⁷ Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. ⁸ Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; ⁹ And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. ¹⁰ 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.

If Jesus read, learned, and memorized Scripture, shouldn't we? If He trusted and obeyed it shouldn't we? What an example He has given to us.

5. Jesus used Scripture to confront sin

He did this throughout the Sermon on the Mount as He pointed people to the moral teachings of the Law. He used the Law as a mirror to reveal the sin of their hearts. He taught them that it was not only sin to commit adultery, but it was sin to look on a person with lust. He taught

them it was only sin to murder, but it was a sin to hate someone. He confronted the sins of self-righteousness and hypocrisy.

- **Matthew 9:9-13** ⁹ *And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.* ¹⁰ *And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples.* ¹¹ *And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?* ¹² *But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.* ¹³ *But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*
- **Matthew 15:7-9** ⁷ *Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,* ⁸ *This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.* ⁹ *But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.*
- **Matthew 21:12-13** ¹² *And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves,* ¹³ *And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.*

It is no wonder that when Jesus asked, “Who do men say that I am?” his disciples answered, “Some say you are John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets” (Mt. 16:13-14). All the prophets confronted sin. All the prophets said, “Thus saith the Lord.”

6. Jesus used Scripture to warn about the future

He warned His disciples about things in the near future and things far off in the future.

- **He warned about Judas the traitor**
John 13:18-19 *I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me. Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he.* This was the fulfillment of Psalm 41:9.
- **He warned about events leading up to His arrest and crucifixion**
Luke 18:31-33 ³¹ *Then he took unto him the twelve, and said unto them, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished.* ³² *For he shall be delivered unto the Gentiles, and shall be mocked, and spitefully entreated, and spitted on:* ³³ *And they shall scourge him, and put him to death: and the third day he shall rise again.* He wanted them to know what the Scripture said so they wouldn't be surprised. His crucifixion was not an accident but a divine appointment. He was not an unwilling victim of circumstances, but a willing sacrifice in God's plan of redemption.
- **He warned about His second coming**
Luke 17:24-30 ²⁴ *For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in his day.* ²⁵ *But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation.* ²⁶ *And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.* ²⁷

They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.²⁸ Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;²⁹ But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.³⁰ Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed. He warned them that His second coming would be sudden and unexpected. He warned them to be ready at any time.

7. Jesus used Scripture to expose unbelief

- **Matthew 12:38-42**³⁸ *Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee.³⁹ But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:⁴⁰ For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.⁴¹ The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.⁴² The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.*
- **Matthew 21:42** *Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head: of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?*
- **Luke 16:24-31**²⁴ *And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.²⁵ But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.²⁶ And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.²⁷ Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:²⁸ For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.²⁹ Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.³⁰ And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.³¹ And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.*

Jesus rebuked people over the Scripture for not reading it, not understanding it, not believing it, and not obeying it. The great shame today is that so many people are neglecting God's Word. And one day Jesus will say you have no excuse for ignorance. You had Bibles, you had churches, you had teachers and preachers and evangelists. You have rejected Me and my Word, and now I must reject you. There will be no Bibles in Hell. There will be no more truth and no more opportunity to repent and believe.