



# THE LONG HAUL

## Questions for Application for the Week of October 21, 2013

### Part 3 - Be At Peace: He Is LORD - Matthew 4:1-11

1. It is quite clear that it was the Spirit who led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil (Mt. 4:1). How might this truth cause you to think about trials and the times of testing you face differently?

2. The devil first tempted Jesus to place his hunger above God's will for him (at the time) to be fasting (Mt. 4:3). In what ways does our culture test our priorities? What does our culture say we "need" or "deserve" that God would say otherwise and how might this impact those investigating Christianity?

3. In the second temptation, the devil challenged Jesus to test God's word by throwing himself off the pinnacle of the temple (Mt. 4:5-6). In what ways are you tempted to claim God's "promises" in order to do what you want and how does Jesus' example challenge you?

4. In order to atone for the sins of the world, Jesus would have to suffer and die. The devil offered Jesus a plan that would avoid suffering, but would require Jesus "falling down" and worshipping Satan (Mt. 4:9). What "shortcuts" can tempt you to avoid struggle but necessitate that you compromise on something God has called for?

5. The time of testing does not last forever and, as promised in Psalm 91:11, God sends his angels to minister to Jesus (Mt. 4:11). Do you know somebody who is currently in the midst of a season of intense trial or difficulty? Read Psalm 91 and then pray for the person on your heart. Ask God to sustain them through the trial and send his angels to minister to them after it is finished.