



**Matthew 4:1-11 (NLT) | SCRIPTURE**

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**Fast Forward Through the Wilderness | SERMON**

Wilderness is a separation between the past and a promise. The past and your purpose. The past and your promotion.

Don't be afraid of the wilderness because it's a sign of change in your life.

## **1. Provision**

Fasting helps us to submit our deepest need for provision to God.

There is water in Marah, but it is so bitter no one can drink it. So the people complain against Moses again. (Exodus 15:22-24)

"Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by pots of meat and ate bread to the full. Now you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill us all with hunger." (Exodus 16:1-3)

Despite the warning, however, some of them try it and learn that the manna breeds worms and starts stinking if left overnight. (Exodus 16:11-20)

When the Israelites come to Rephidim, they complain because there is no water to drink. They ask Moses, "Why have you brought us out of Egypt? Was it to kill us, our children, and our livestock with thirst?" Their complaints are serious enough for Moses to think they are going to stone him. (Exodus 17:1-4)

This time they are tired of eating the manna and long for the fish, cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlic of Egypt. (Numbers 11:4-5).

He has a tremendous flock of quail blow into Israel's camp

**Lack of provision** can make us do one of 2 things.

1. Murmur and complain
2. Do things outside of the will of God

# NOTES



## 2 Protection

Israeli did NOT trust God for protection from Pharaoh

Didn't we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, 'Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It's better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!'" Number 14:12

Israelites did not trust God to protect them from Giants and give them their land.

"Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have led us out into this wilderness to die? Didn't we tell you when we were in Egypt to leave us alone so that we could continue serving the Egyptians? It would have been better for us to have died back there than to die here." (Exodus 14:10-12)

*How did they test the Lord's protection?*

They believed God but did NOT trust Him.

Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you. Luke 10:19  
NLT

Protection from demonic attacks and retaliation. Shield of Faith. Our faith in the God who protect us.

In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Eph 6:16 NLT

Fasting will help you submit the need for protection to God.

Protection and provision temptation deals with our Identity. "If you are the son of God".

Son has a Father and its father responsibility to do 2 things. Provide and Protect.



Then say to Pharaoh, 'This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son, Exodus 4:22

And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matt 3:17

### 3. Purpose

God told Pharaoh "let my people go to worship". Their purpose was to worship and serve God.

And I told you, "Let my son go, so he may worship me." But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.'" Exodus 4:23

"Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'" Matthew 4:10

Israelites failed their purpose by worshiping other gods.

Moses is gone so long, 40 days, that the people figure he is never going to return. So they, with the help of Aaron, create a golden calf to serve as their new god. They worship it and offer sacrifices unto it. (Exodus 32:1-6)

Fasting reveals your purpose and sharpens your focus.

One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them." Acts 13:2

Your worship is closely tight to your service!

**The wilderness test is not forever. It will come to an end.**

Wilderness is temporary! It's transitional.

When the devil had **finished** tempting Jesus, he left him until the next opportunity came. Luke 4:13



At the end of the wilderness is freedom and God's provision. Angelic ministry, Supernatural aid.

“Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus” Matthew 4:11

### **FastForward**

Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit's power. Reports about him spread **quickly** through the whole region. Luke 4:14

Fasting speeds up the wilderness process.