



Follow Me

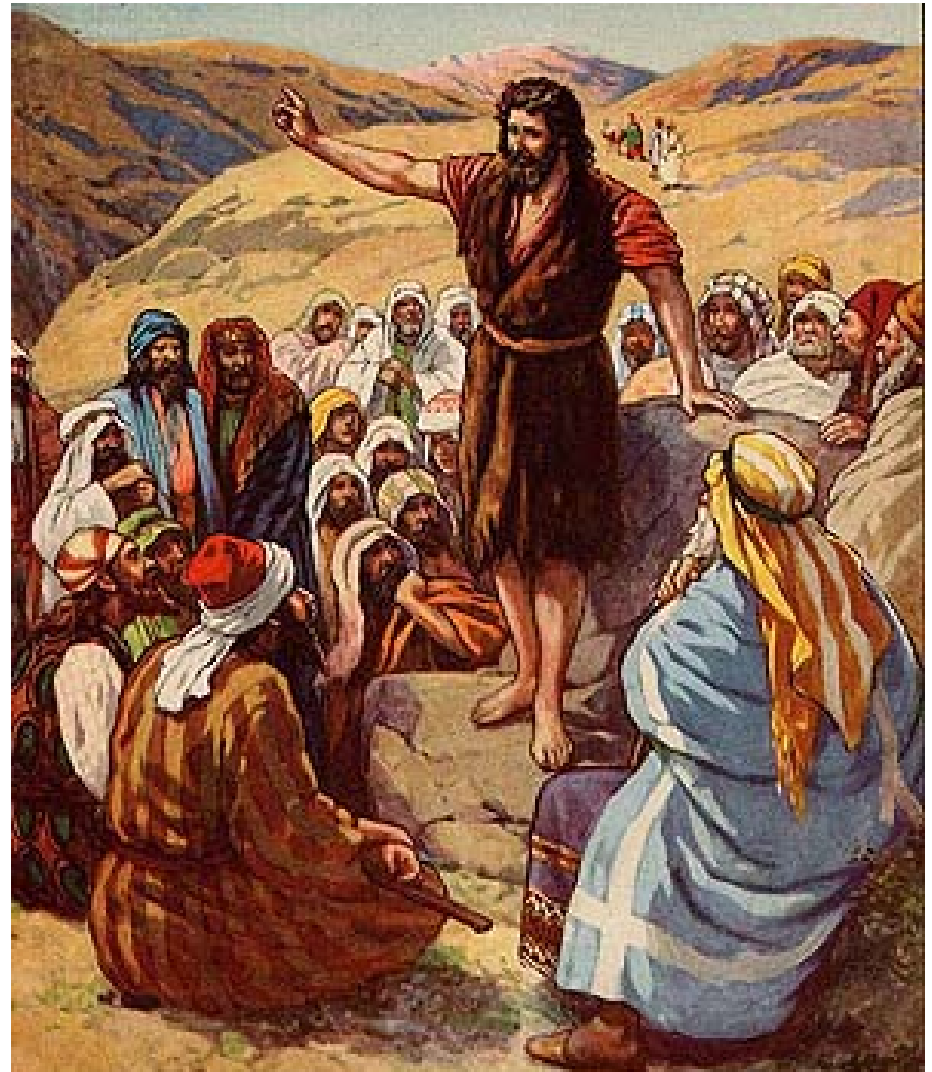
**Matthew
3,4**

A Strange thing in the Land

Matt 3

JST John

1-34



The Wilderness

Matt 4



Elder Holland



The temptation is *not* in the eating. He has eaten before, he will soon eat again, and he must eat for the rest of his mortal life.

The temptation, at least the part I wish to focus on, is to do it this way, to get his bread--his physical satisfaction, relief for his human appetite--**the easy way**, by abuse of power and without a willingness to wait for the right time and the right way.

It is the temptation to be the convenient Messiah. Why do things the hard way? Why walk to the shop--or bakery? Why travel all the way home? Why deny yourself satisfaction when with ever such a slight compromise you might enjoy this much-needed nourishment?

But Christ will not ask selfishly for unearned bread. He will postpone gratification, indefinitely if necessary, rather than appease appetite--even ravenous appetite--with what is not his.

Elder Holland



Now in some frustration Satan moves right to the point. If he cannot tempt physically and cannot tempt spiritually, he will simply make an outright proposition. From a high mountain where they might overlook the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them, Satan says, "*All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.*"

Satan makes up for lack of subtlety here with the grandeur of his offer. Never mind that these kingdoms are not ultimately his to give. He simply asks of the great Jehovah, God of heaven and earth, "What is your price?"

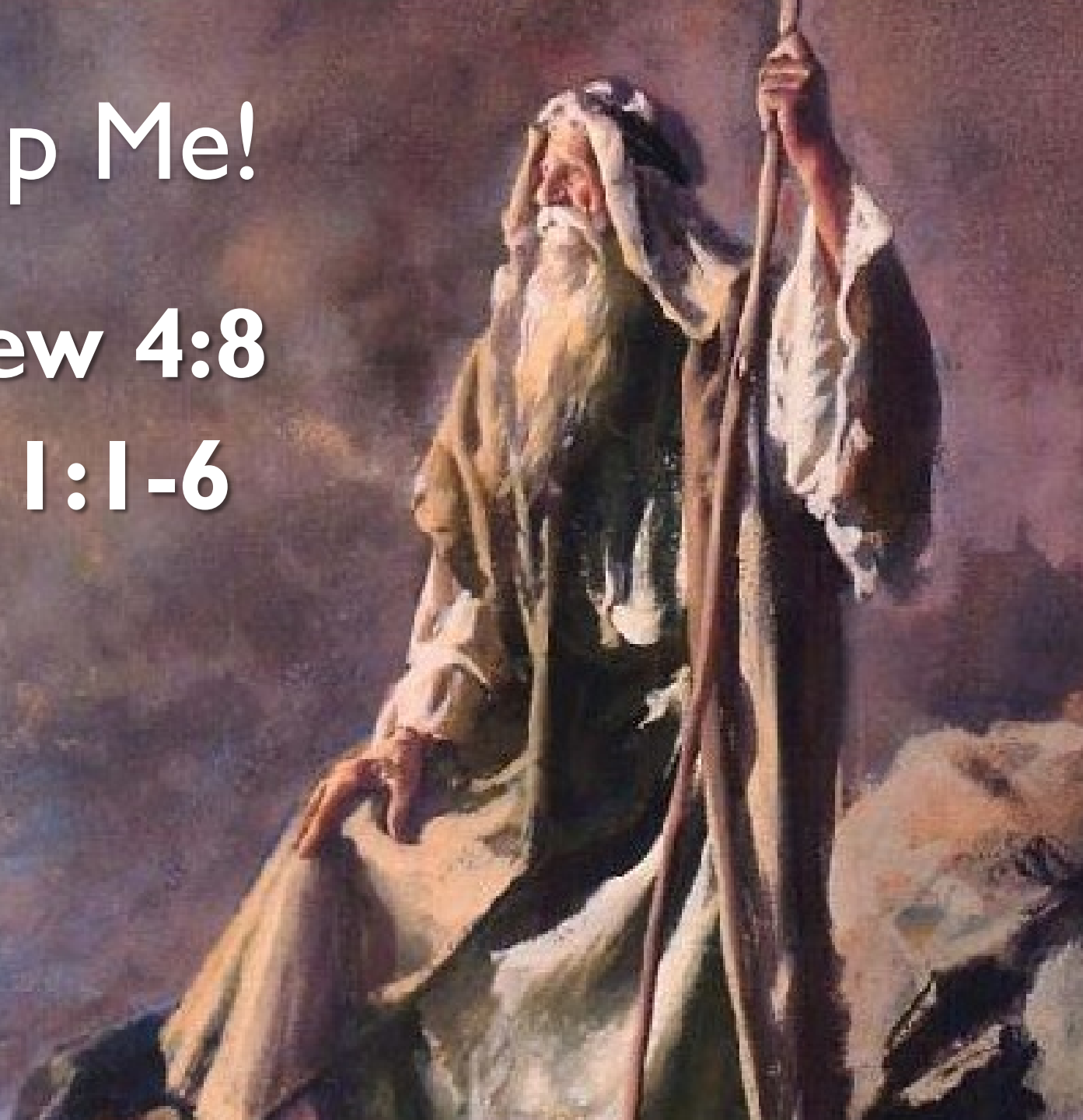
Cheap bread you resist. Tawdry messianic drama you resist, but no man can resist this world's wealth. *Name your price.*"

Satan is proceeding under his first article of faithlessness--the unequivocal belief that you can buy anything in this world for money.

Worship Me!

Matthew 4:8

Moses 1:1-6



Follow Me



Matthew 4:17