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WHAT MAN LIVES BY

People do not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God
Matt 4:4 (NLT)

The experience of Jesus in the wilderness is common to all mankind. Simply put Jesus is trying to decide the basic question that confronts every man: What shall I do with my life? This question faces every man: What shall I do with my life? Although I shall deal with only one of the three temptations, Jesus is getting his priorities straight. Man has to decide what he will put first in his life. **This problem faces the young with terrific force.** If it is money, material wealth,

Houses and land, stocks and bonds, silver and gold – as important as these are – if these are central in our lives, human values become secondary. **Man may exist, but he will never know the full joy of living.** As indispensable as bread is, as vital as material things are, possessions alone have never made a man great. **The rich man who achieves a degree of greatness achieves it not because he hoards his wealth but because he gives it away in the interest of good causes – his concern for humanity, his concern for the poor, and his desire to improve the quality of education. The truly great men of history are great not because of the abundance of the things they possessed but because of their dreams and the contributions they made to mankind.** It is because they recognized that man cannot live by bread alone.

Many years ago, H.G. Wells named the six great men of history. He named Buddha and Asoka, brown men; Aristotle, a Greek; Roger Bacon, an Englishman; Abraham Lincoln, an American; and the greatest among them, Jesus, a Jew. **If I were to name my list, I would want to include men like Albert Schweitzer, Mahatma Gandhi, and my pupil and friend, Martin Luther King, Jr. These men knew that man cannot live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. AMEN.**

~Dr. Benjamin E. Mays

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20

