

## The Truth about the devil!

### A. The Existence of Satan

- His existence is doubted by the world.
  - ✓ In the fifties a national secular magazine took a poll of some 5000 American clergymen and discovered that a full 73% ridiculed the concept of a personal devil of any sort.
  - ✓ “If I were the devil I would deny my existence in the world and downplay it in the local church, thus freeing me to go about my business unheeded, unhindered, and unchecked.”
  - ✓ Understand: that Satan works best when he is either **underestimated, ignored or denied**.
- In the Bible his existence is clearly declared. Unlike the world, the Bible does not doubt, deny, or downplay the existence of Satan. When you look into the Bible you find that the devil is mentioned in 7 of the Old Testament books, he is found in 19 New Testament books and is referred to by every New Testament writer; he is even mentioned by the Lord Jesus Christ some 15 times.
  - ✓ Just to name a few: “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” (Mt. 4:10)
  - ✓ “But he turned and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.” (Mt. 16:23)
  - ✓ “And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven” (Lk. 10:18)
  - ✓ “Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?” (Jn. 6:70)
  - ✓ “And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat” (Lk. 22:31)
- To deny the existence of Satan is to deny both the statements of the Scriptures and the testimony of the Savior himself, Jesus Christ.

### B. The Origin of Satan

- It is spoken of in Ezekial 28: 12-19
- Also in Isaiah 14:12-14
  - ✓ Note that Satan’s desire has always been to replace God. First, in heaven, second, on earth and third, in the lives of humans.

### C. The Goal of Satan

- God is Satan’s number one enemy. It is Satan’s goal to get at or attack God in any way possible. He understands that he cannot directly attack God but he can indirectly attack God. He cannot directly attack God in that he is not allowed to enter the gates of heaven to get where God is. However, he can indirectly attack God by hurting



what God owns and what God loves the most. For example, the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof (Ps. 24:1) so Satan attacks God's earth. The thing that God loves the most and cherishes is mankind. Thus Satan attacks the children of God to get back at Jesus.

✓ John 10:10, 1 Peter 4:8

D. The activities of Satan are?

1. He imitates God.
  - ✓ Satan disguises himself as an angel of light, he has churches (Rev. 2:9), a false trinity (Rev. 13:2), a doctrine (1 Tim. 4:1), a kingdom (Lk. 4:6), worshipers (Rev. 13:4), angels (Rev. 12:4), and ministers (2 Cor. 11:15).
2. He sows tares among the wheat.
  - ✓ The tares are the children of the wicked who fight against the wheat or the good seed who are children of the kingdom, the sons of God. (Mt. 13:36-43)
3. He perverts the Word of God.
  - ✓ He takes it out of context, causes it to be misinterpreted, understresses certain doctrine while creating false doctrine.
4. He hinders the works of God's servants.
  - ✓ "Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once again; but Satan hindered us" (1 Thess. 2:18). He can only do this with God's permission of course.
5. He resists the prayers of God's servants.
  - ✓ We see this happen to Daniel while in Persia that when he prayed, God indeed heard him that hour but because of war in the heavens the messenger of God wasn't able to deliver the message until the 21<sup>st</sup> day (Dan. 10: 12,13). Again, God's permission is still needed for Satan to do this.
6. He blinds men to the truth. (2 Cor. 4:4)
7. He steals the Word of God from human hearts. (Mt. 13:19)
8. He accuses Christians before God.
  - ✓ Read Zech. 3:1-4 and then Romans 8:33-34.
9. He lays snares for men (1 Tim. 3:7).
10. He tempts (Mt. 4:1, Eph. 6:11).
11. He afflicts (Job 2:7, Lk. 13:16).
12. He deceives (Rev. 12:9).
13. He undermines the sanctity of the home (1 Cor. 7:3-5).
14. He prompts both saints and sinners to transgress against the holiness of God.
  - ✓ HEAR: it was Satan who caused David to disobey God (1 Chron. 21:1), it was Satan who caused Judas to betray Christ (Jn. 13:2), it was Satan who caused Peter to rebuke Christ; and later deny him. It was Satan who caused Ananias and his wife to lie to the Holy Spirit, and IF you're not careful, it will be Satan who will cause you to do this or that.

E. The Christian's Victory over Satan.

- The believers' victory lies in nothing else but the Word of God, which is Jesus Christ himself.



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- ✓ “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel” (Gn. 3:15).
  - ✓ Praise the Lord that the Seed of God has been sown into our hearts that where Christ is we are also. Praise God that you can be positioned with Christ in heavenly places, that where Jesus reign you may reign also. Blessed be the name of the Lord that you have an inheritance in Christ Jesus, yes, blessed be His name because Satan is under our feet and he can rise no more and no higher.
- Praise God for Romans 16:20, which states that the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.
  - Praise God for John 16:13, which says these things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulations but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.
  - Praise God for 1 John 4:4, which says that you are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because HE who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
  - For 1 John 3:8 says, “for this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.
  - Praise Him for the whole armor of God, that having done all to stand, therefore stand (Eph. 6)
  - Thank God for Is. 54:17, that says no weapon formed against you shall prosper.
  - Praise God for Phil. 4:13, for it states that we can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens you.
  - Praise God for James 4:7, for it states that if we submit to God, and resist the devil, he shall flee from us.
  - Praise God for Genesis 50:20, which states that what the enemy meant for my bad, God meant it for my good, that this day would come about so that many who are alive would be saved.
  - Praise God for 1 Cor. 10:13, that no temptation has overtaken you except that such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.
  - Praise God for 2 Cor. 4:8,9, for we are hard pressed on every side yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.
  - Oh thank the Lord, for Romans 8:37 that yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.
  - Oh thank Him for Psalm 91, “He who dwells in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; my God in Him I will trust. Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; his truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look, and see the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord, who is my refuge, even the Most High,



your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling. For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

- Oh thank God, that if he is for us, no one can be against us? (Rom. 8:31)
- Oh glorify His name for Mt. 16:19, “and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loose in heaven.
- Oh I can hear the Spirit saying “Now Salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death (Rev. 12:10,11).



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