

Satan, A Being That no Man Can Defeat Alone

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Introduction: We need to see and understand the unseen

- A. Men make great mistakes when they lack understanding of causes.
 - 1. Before we understood about germs, people had terrible “solutions” to sickness.
 - 2. Note in the Old Testament how leprosy was handled! No science of that day understood the need for quarantine.
- B. We need to know that there is an unseen world that is behind the struggles of this world! (**Eph 6:12**)
 - 1. Jesus looked behind the men who attacked Him and knew there was a much greater foe. (**Jn 14:30**)
 - 2. I want to introduce you to that terrible being the Bible calls Satan.

I. The origin of Satan

- A. Satan is a created being.
 - 1. The Bible is very clear that all things in heaven and earth were created except God. (**Col 1:15-17**)
 - 2. Jesus is not a created being, but the creator!
 - 3. All things in the spiritual realm, both angels and demons were created.
 - 4. Did God create evil beings as evil? No. (**James 1:13, 17**)
- B. We must conclude then that Satan and the demons are fallen beings!
 - 1. We know that angels can sin but unlike man they have no provision for forgiveness! (**Jude 6**)
 - 2. There are verses that hint of this fall. (**Lk 10:17-18**)
 - 3. Some misapply an Old Testament passage of a king named Lucifer to the fall of Satan. (**Isa 14:12**)

II. The limits of Satan

- A. He is not omniscient (**Job 1:7**)
 - 1. He is very powerful and very “wise.”
 - 2. He also has many allies that he has taught.
- B. He is limited by God (**Job 1:12; 2:6**)
 - 1. God takes care of those who are in fellowship with Him.
 - 2. Without God’s protection men are helpless. (**1 Pt 5:8**)
- C. He works through agents and not directly (**2 Cor 11:13-15**)
 - 1. Being evil Satan follows no rules!
 - 2. Being evil he pretends to “help you” while in truth wanting to destroy you!
 - 3. A religious body, church, synagogue can be a church of Satan! (**Rev 2:9**)
 - 4. Look out for the scoffers who pride themselves in their spirituality.

III. The Powerful work of Satan

- A. He has the overwhelming majority of mankind under his control.
 - 1. He controls governments. (**Rev 13:1-2**)

- 2. He controls religions. **(Rev 13:13-14; 19:20)**
- 3. He controls our media.
- B. His power is found in deception and lies. **(Jn 8:43-45)**
 - 1. He seeks to eliminate reason. **(2 Cor 4:4)**
 - 2. He seeks to close hearts to even hearing the word of God. **(Lk 8:12)**
 - 3. He wins the overwhelming majority of battles to capture men. **(Mt 7:13-14)**
- C. He appeals to men in three areas. **(1 Jn 2:15-17)**
 - 1. The lusts of the flesh.
 - 2. The lusts of the eyes.
 - 3. The pride of life. **(1 Chron 21:1)**
- D. Consider how social pressure causes most to line up with the majority. **(Jn 9:22, 12:42-43, Num 16:31-33, 41)**

IV. The certain defeat of Satan through Jesus Christ

- A. The defeat of Satan was prophesied in the very beginning. **(Gen 3:15)**
 - 1. That defeat came at the cross. **(Heb 2:14-15)**
 - 2. Satan participated in his own demise. **(1 Cor 2:8)**
 - 3. Those who are forgiven in Christ are freed from the bondage of Satan. No more darkness, fear and burden of guilt!
 - 4. Satan's role of accuser is defeated.
- B. The battle for the soul is found in the gospel. **(Rom 1:16)**
 - 1. We must be taught how to think.
 - 2. We must make a complete surrender to our God of every thought, motive and purpose.
 - 3. The essence of conversion is freeing one from the lies of Satan to the sure promises of God. **(2 Tim 2:24-26)**
- C. We must find certain forgiveness in Christ. **(2 Cor 2:10-11)**
 - 1. We must be constantly made aware of the nature of God and how He forgives.
 - 2. We must resist the lies Satan plants with us about how we will fail or that God will give up on us.
- D. We must fight to keep our minds.
 - 1. That is why the battle against temptation can never be taken lightly. **(1 Cor 10:12-13)**
 - 2. What would David or Manasseh tell us about those who treat sin lightly by saying: "Oh, if I sin I can be forgiven!"
 - 3. You can let sin take away your mind with that attitude. Consider King Saul and his allowing envy to dominate his thinking.
 - 4. God tells us of our certain victory as we build our faith and trust in the protection of our God! **(1 Jn 2:13-14)**

Conclusion: Let us not stop building our faith so that we might obtain a certain victory over Satan! **(1 Jn 5:18-19)**