

The Path

Day 25: Know your enemy 2

Yesterday we discovered that according to the Word of God we have an enemy. That enemy is purposely out to destroy Christians spiritually and in any other way possible. We also discovered a few of his methods. Today we will discover some of his other methods and how to respond to them.

What does Satan do? *(Continued)*

1. Satan bring **condemnation** or guilt to people. Apostle Paul says in 1 Timothy 3:6 - “Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the _____ of the devil.”
2. Satan **snare**s or traps people by deception. In 1 Timothy 3:7 we read a qualification of pastors: “Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the _____ of the devil.”
3. Satan **steals the Word** of God from people’s hearts and minds. In Luke 8:12 we read: “Those by the way side are they that hear, then cometh the devil, and taketh away the _____ out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.”
4. Satan tempts. In 1 Corinthians 7:5 Apostle Paul instructs husbands and wives: “Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan _____ you not for your incontinency.”
5. Satan **murders and lies**. In John 8:44 Jesus rebuked the Pharisees: “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lust of your father ye will do, He was a _____ from the beginning, and not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a _____, and the father of it.”
6. Satan **fills people’s hearts to lie**. In Acts 5:3 we read the judgement Peter gave from God upon Ananias: “But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to _____ to the Holy Ghost and to keep back part of the price of the land?”
7. Satan can **indwell people**. In Luke 22:3 we discover that Satan indwelled Judas: “Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve.”
8. Satan **gives evil thoughts**. In John 13:2 we read of the evil thoughts that Satan gave Judas: “And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the _____ of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray him.”

9. Satan is looking for **advantages over Christians**. In 2 Corinthians 2:11 Apostle Paul wrote: “Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.”
10. Satan **hinders** Christians. In 1 Thessalonians 2:18 Apostle Paul described the hindrance of Satan in his life: “Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan _____ us.”
11. Satan **steals the Word** of God away. In the parable of the sower, in Mark 4:15, Jesus described how the Word of God is taken from people’s hearts: “And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.
12. Satan **destroys flesh**. Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 5:5 - “To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.”
13. Satan can be a **thorn in our flesh** to bring us humility. In 2 Corinthians 12:7 we read: “And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be _____ above measure.”
14. Satan has power to **perform miracles**. 2 Thessalonians 2:9 - “Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders.”

How we should respond to Satan

1. Be sober and vigilant. 1 Peter 5:8 - “Be sober, be _____; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”
2. Don’t give place to him. Ephesians 4:27 - “Neither give _____ to the devil.”
3. Do not make a railing accusation against him. In Jude 1:9 we read: “Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, the Lord rebuke thee.”
4. Resist the devil. Various scriptures instruct Christians to resist evil.
 - a. In James 4:7 we read: “Submit yourselves therefore to God. _____ the devil, and he will flee from you.”
 - b. In Matthew 4:10 Jesus resisted: “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.”
 - c. In Matthew 16:23 - “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.”

Christians Power over Satan

1. Luke 10:18 - "And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning _____ from heaven."
2. God shall bruise Satan under your feet. Romans 16:20 - "And the God of peace shall _____ Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen."
3. Jesus Came to destroy the devil's works. 1 John 3:8 - "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might _____ the works of the devil."
4. Hebrews 2:14 - "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might _____ him that had the power of death, that is, the devil."
5. Devil cast into hell. Revelation 20:10 - "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and _____."

Discussion:

1. **How does Satan bring condemnation and guilt to people? How can we combat those feelings?**
2. **How does Satan deceive? What can we do to protect ourselves from deception? How can we recognize a lie from Satan?**
3. **How do you think Satan steals the Word from Christians? How can we protect ourselves against this theft?**
4. **What ways could Satan gain an advantage over Christians? How can we refuse to "give place to the devil"?**
5. **Why is it important to be sober and vigilant as we struggle against Satan?**
6. **Why is it essential that we resist the devil? In what ways can we resist?**
7. **Why should Christians be unafraid of Satan?**