

HIS DEVICES

2 COR 2:11 AND OTHERS

Text: 2 Cor. 2:11, 11:14

2 Cor. 2:11

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

2 Cor. 11:14

And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

Introduction:

Commanders in battle say that one of the most important strategies is to know your enemy. We must remember that the devil is alive and active in the world.

He is described as an angel of light, and accuser of the brethren, an adversary like a lion seeking to devour his prey.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Rev. 12:10

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

Satan's desire is to distract, detour, deceive and devour.

Satan's design is to deny, dilute, and distort the Word of God.

Satan's devices delude and damn people to Hell.

Let's Consider:

1. THE PERSONALITY OF SATAN

Ezekiel 28:11-19

Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, ¹²Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. ¹³Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone *was* thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. ¹⁴Thou *art* the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee *so*: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁵Thou *wast* perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. ¹⁶By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁷Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. ¹⁸Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that

behold thee. ¹⁹All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never *shalt* thou *be* any more.

Isaiah 14:12-14

How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *how* art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! ¹³For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

Ephes. 6:10-12

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

2. THE PRESENCE OF SATAN

A. He tempted the Lord.

Luke 4:1-13

And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ²Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered. ³And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread. ⁴And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. ⁵And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. ⁶And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me;

and to whomsoever I will I give it. ⁷If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. ⁸And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. ⁹And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: ¹⁰For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: ¹¹And in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. ¹²And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. ¹³And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.

B. Peter warns of his presence

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: ⁹Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

C. Paul warns of his presence

2 Cor. 11:14

And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

3. The Power of Satan

A. The devil desires to control the *minds*, *morals*, *motives*, *manners*, and *materials* available to man.

2 Thes. 2:9-10

Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,¹⁰ And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Ephes. 6:12

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

John 14:30

Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

2 Cor. 4:4

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

4. The Program of Satan

- The devil's program includes the times and the seasons.

A. Satan tempted our Savior right after His baptism.

B. Satan tempted David at the time when kings went to battle.

2 Samuel 11:1

And it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth *to battle*, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children

of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem.

- The devil's program includes tactics and snares.
- The devil attacks, allures, and accuses
- The devil appeals to our appetites (Gen 3, Matt 4)
- The devil appeals to our ambition (1 John 2:15, Gen 3, Matt 4)

1 John 2:15

Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

- The devil appeals to our allegiance (Matt 4)
- The devil misleads, misinforms, and misrepresents God's Word.
- The devil's program includes tragedy and successes.
- The devil's program is designed to entice, enslave, and embarrass.
- The devil blinds, binds, blames, beguiles, and belittles.

Close:

Satan by deception sows doubt and discouragement and by design he sows dissatisfaction and division. He deliberately discredits and distorts and by delusion he causes destruction and damnation.

A biblical understanding of the person, presence, power, and program of the devil helps us to flee from his presence.