

Myths About Satan

Part 2

Introduction.

1. Last week we began a study of some of the **Myths About Satan**.
2. We examined a number of the common myths about Satan including the erroneous idea that Satan himself is a myth.
3. We showed from the Scriptures that Satan is a wicked being who has many names in the Bible, but he is not Lucifer.
 - a. Lucifer is a name given to Nebuchadnezzar, the wicked king of Babylon. (Isa. 14:4).

Is 14:4 that you will take up this taunt against the king of Babylon, and say, "How the oppressor has ceased, {And how} fury has ceased!

- b. This passage is describing the downfall of this wicked man.
- c. It is not referring to Satan who is a wicked spirit and not a man who had been buried and experiencing the horrors and taunting Nebuchadnezzar was undergoing. (Isa. 14:11).

Is 14:11 'Your pomp {and} the music of your harps Have been brought down to Sheol [the grave]; Maggots are spread out {as your bed} beneath you And worms are your covering.'

4. We also substantiated from the Scriptures that **Satan is not a myth**, but he is a real, powerful being.
5. The Scriptures reveal that Satan is not eternal nor is he Deity, but he was created by Jesus who created everything that has come into existence. (Col. 1:15-17).

Col 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of [pre-eminent over] all creation.

Col 1:16 For by Him all things were created, {both} in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him.

Col 1:17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

- a. Satan was not created evil, but he became evil before the world was created by God through Jesus.
 - b. Both men and angels are creatures of choice.
 - c. Only creatures of choice truly glorify God.
 - d. A robot does not bring glory to God.
6. Satan is a wicked angel who seeks to lead every person into a state of condemnation and suffering.
 7. He hates God and desires that all, men and angels, rebel against God.

8. He wants all to be lost and knows God wants all to be saved. (1 Tim. 2:4).
9. He tried to induce Jesus to sin to assure none would be saved - only the sinless Son of God could make atonement for sin. See Matt. 4:1-11.
10. This lesson will examine some additional common Myths About Satan.

Satan Is Omnipotent

1. Some falsely believe Satan is Omnipotent.
 - a. They believe he can make people do evil things.
 - b. The words “the devil made me do it” are commonly heard and believed.
 - 1) Some jokingly make this statement.
 - 2) Others believe Satan has the power to make us do evil.
 - c. Some even believe Satan is more powerful than God.
 - d. They base this, in part, on the fact that evil dominates the world.
 - 1) The masses ignore the commandments of God.
 - 2) They practice what is right in their own eyes or what others who do not care about God practice.
2. Satan is powerful, but he is not omnipotent!
3. That Satan is not omnipotent is clearly revealed in Scriptures.
 - a. The apostle John revealed this fact. (1 Jn. 4:4).

1 John 4:4 You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because **greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.**

- 1) John here used the words “greater is He who is in you than he [the devil] who is in the world.”
 - 2) He used these encouraging words to reveal that Christians can overcome the evil one with the help of God.
 - 3) No one could overcome Satan if he were omnipotent.
- b. James revealed Satan is not omnipotent. (Jas. 4:7).

James 4:7 Submit therefore to God. **Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**

- 1) Once again it should be stressed one could not resist one who was or is all-powerful.
- 2) This is a powerful argument against the omnipotence of Satan.
- 3) It is essential we depend on God. (Jas. 4:8; 1 Cor. 10:13).

James 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

1 Cor 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

c. Peter taught we must be on the alert and watchful of Satan. (1 Pet. 5:8).

1 Pet 5:8 Be of sober {spirit,} be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

1) Being “on the alert” against Satan would be vain if he is all-powerful and cannot be resisted.

2) The Christian has victory by trusting in the One who is truly all-powerful and died that we might be saved. (1 Jn. 5:4-5).

1 John 5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.

1 John 5:5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

3) There is “no condemnation” for those trusting in Jesus. (Rom. 8:1).

Rom 8:1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

4) Those who trust in Christ are eternally secure!

c. Furthermore, God would not have been able to cast one who was omnipotent out of heaven nor be able to empower Christians to resist an omnipotent Satan. (Rev. 12:7, 8).

4. If Satan was omnipotent, he could do what Jesus said he could not do. (Jn. 10:28-29).

John 10:28 and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

John 10:29 "My Father, who has given {them} to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch {them} out of the Father's hand.

a. One can choose to reject God and His Son, but Satan cannot snatch them from the hand of the Father or the Son.

b. Satan can and will snatch those who quit walking in the light and confessing their sins. (1 Jn. 1:7, 9).

5. Paul also taught Satan cannot overpower those who trust in Jesus. (Rom. 8:37-39).

Rom 8:37 But in all these things **we overwhelmingly conquer** through Him who loved us. ASV & NKJV have “more than conquerors.”

Rom 8:38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

Rom 8:39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

a. Satan is powerless to conquer those trusting in Christ who empowers, motivates and forgives us.

b. “We overwhelmingly conquer [are more than conquerors] through Him who loved us.”

c. Those who put their trust in Christ will be victorious.

1) Christ gives us strength to overcome. (Phil. 4:13).

Phil 4:13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

2) Through Christ our sins are forgiven. (1 Jn. 1:7, 9).

3) Through Christ we have victory. (1 Jn. 5:4-5).

1 John 5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.

1 John 5:5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Satan Is Not Omnipresent

1. God is omnipresent. (Psa. 139:7-10; Prov. 15:3).

Ps 139:7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?

Ps 139:8 If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.

Ps 139:9 If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,

Ps 139:10 Even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me.

Prov 15:3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Watching the evil and the good. See also Heb. 4:13.

a. The omnipresence of God is impossible for finite man to comprehend, but it is true.

b. God is everywhere in the vast universe.

c. “As Spirit” God does not have the limitations of man.

d. God does not have the limitations of angels who are created beings, but not the Creator.

2. Satan is not everywhere. (Job 1:7).

Job 1:7 The LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From **roaming about on the earth and walking around on it.**"

a. One who is everywhere does not roam the earth nor walk around on it.

b. One who is omnipresent does not need to roam on the earth, but is everywhere on earth and in the universe.

c. Satan does not have to be omnipresent since he has many co-workers both men and angels.

d. He does not have to be omnipresent since “a little leaven leavens the whole loaf” and he has countless workers and far more than “a little leaven.”

e. He has been sowing his wicked seed before and after the creation of man.

- 1) He has multiplied millions or even billions of co-workers.
- 2) Many of his co-workers work diligently for him and others work diligently for him because they have been duped and do not even realize they are working for Satan.
- 3) Here are some examples of those who have been duped by Satan.

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| Those who believe they do not need Christ to be saved. (Jn. 14:6). | Those who believe being a lukewarm believer is acceptable to God. (Rev. 3:16). | Those who believe they will be saved because of their power, fame, education, wealth, etc. |
| Those who believe morality alone will save. | Those who believe everyone will be saved. (Matt. 7:13,14). | Those who believe they cannot be lost. (Jn. 8:24; 3:36). |
| Those who refuse to be baptized. (Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:26-27). | Those who refuse to confess their sins. (Matt. 10:32-33; Mk. 8:28). | All who do not trust in Jesus and His atoning blood for salvation. (Heb. 9:22). |

- f. Satan appeared in the garden of Eden as a snake.
- g. He led Adam and Eve to sin and be separated from “the tree of life.” (Gen. 3:22-23).

Gen 3:22 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"--
 Gen 3:23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken.

- 1) Their sin also cause the rest of mankind to be separated from the tree of life.
- 2) Only those trusting in Christ will have access to this tree.

3. He has great influence, but he is not everywhere

- a. As already affirmed, Satan does not have to be everywhere.
- b. He has a host of co-workers, both human and angelic, who seek to please him and spread evil everywhere.
- c. Paul gave this warning to Christians. (Eph. 6:12).

Eph 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual {forces} of wickedness in the heavenly {places.}

- d. The majority of the world rejects God and listens to some or all of the lies of Satan.
 - 1) It is easy for Satan to entice men because he tells them what they want to hear or he motivates them to practice evil by fear and intimidation.
 - 2) He promises pleasure and omits the temporal and eternal consequences of following him.
 - 3) The psalmist made this observation about many of the wicked in this life. (Psa. 55:23).

Ps 55:23 But You, O God, will bring them down to the pit of destruction; Men of bloodshed and deceit will not

live out half their days. But I will trust in You.

e. It is also amazing that millions who deny Satan or do not take him seriously accept his lies and live in a way to please him.

1) Many Christians half-heartedly serve God believing the lies of Satan about the non-necessity of commitment to God and His Son.

2) Satan deceives Christians into believing they can be lukewarm or even cold in their commitment and still be pleasing to God.

4. **If Satan was everywhere, he would then be Deity!**

a. Only Deity is everywhere.

b. Created things are finite and cannot be everywhere.

5. **God is far more powerful than Satan!**

a. Satan has power.

b. God has unlimited power!

6. Satan and his angels will be cast into hell. (Matt. 25:41).

Matt 25:41 "Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;

a. **Satan is no match for God.**

b. He and his angels will be cast into hell and have no hope of escaping from it. (Matt. 25:41,46).

c. Satan knows he and his angels will eventually be cast into the everlasting fires of hell.

d. This does not discourage him or slow him down.

e. Misery loves company and he wants our company.

Conclusion

1. Next week we will conclude this series of lessons on "Myths About Satan."

2. It is vital we understand our greatest enemy!

a. We need to understand the myths about him and not be misled by them.

b. It is important we understand and accept what the Bible actually teaches about our greatest enemy...

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