

Myths About Satan

Part 3

Introduction.

1. This is the final lesson in this series of lessons on “Myths About Satan.”
2. In the previous two lessons we examined and exposed these myths about Satan.
 - a. Satan is a myth and not a real being.
 - b. Satan is Lucifer.
 - c. Satan is eternal, omnipotent, omnipresent.
 - d. Satan is Deity.
3. In this lesson we will expose some other myths about Satan.
4. Satan is our greatest enemy and it is essential we understand what is true or false about him.

Satan Is Not Omniscient

1. Some believe Satan is omniscient, that is, all-knowing.
 - a. Some believe Satan knows everything including our thoughts.
 - b. They believe, like God, he knows everything - past, present, future.
 - c. There is no question that Satan knows a lot.
 - d. He has vast experience in how to dupe and deceive man.
 - e. He has countless tricks to lead one away from God.
 - f. He often deceives us by disguising himself in sheep’s clothing and even appearing as “an angel of light.”
 - g. Paul warned believers not to be ignorant of the wicked “schemes” of the devil. (Eph. 6:11).

Eph 6:11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

- 1) The word “schemes” is translated from the Greek “methodeia” meaning “wiles, cunning arts, trickery, schemes.”
 - 2) Satan does not care which “trick” or “scheme” works as long as he overcomes his victim and brings about his/her condemnation.
2. There is, however, absolutely nothing in the Scriptures to teach or suggest that Satan knows everything.

- a. He does not know our thoughts, but he works hard to produce wicked, corrupt thoughts in the minds of all.
- b. He knows as a man thinketh so is he. (Prov. 23:7).

Prov 23:7 For as he thinks within himself, so he is. He says to you, "Eat and drink!" But his heart is not with you.

- 1) He works hard to corrupt and pervert our thinking.
- 2) He works hard to create doubt in our minds about God's existence and His promises.
- 3) He works hard to lead us to rebel against God or to compromise what God requires of us.
- 4) If these things all fail, he seeks to create in us a weak, compromising faith in God.

- c. He certainly does not want man to follow the inspired advice of Paul. (Phil. 4:8).

Phil 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, **dwell on these things.**

- 1) Satan knows he cannot overcome those who follow Paul's teaching here.
- 2) Thus, he and his co-workers work diligently, day and night, to corrupt our thinking.
- 3) **Here are some of the ways Satan corrupts our thinking.**

Cause us to doubt God's existence.	Cause us to think sin does not have eternal consequences.	Cause us to believe there is no hell.
Cause us to doubt God cares about us.	Cause us to believe Phil. 4:8 is foolishness and takes all the enjoyment all of life.	Cause us to believe this life is all there is. See 1 Cor. 15:32.
Cause us to doubt there is a heaven or hell.	Cause us to believe no one can live the Christian life. It is a mistake to even try.	Cause us to believe that some darkness will not harm us and separate us from God.

- d. **It is a false and an absolute myth to believe Satan knows everything!**

- e. One with unlimited [infinite] knowledge would be Deity, but Satan is not even close to Deity!

- 1) He is the chief of the fallen angels.
- 2) He is a created being who rebelled against God.
- 3) He is fully committed to keep all from being saved.

4. Only Deity knows everything - past, present, future!

5. God's understanding is infinite. (Psa. 147:5).

Ps 147:5 Great is our Lord and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.

a. There is nothing God does not know.

b. There is nothing God does not understand.

c. God never forgets anything.

1) God does "forget" in the sense that He ceases to hold forgiven sins against a person.

2) The Hebrew writer gave this assurance to believers. (Heb. 8:12).

Heb 8:12 "FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TO THEIR INIQUITIES, AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE."

d. God is never surprised, but He is grieved and disappointed when we sin.

6. Nothing is hidden from God. (Heb. 4:13).

Heb 4:13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

7. He knows even the number of the hairs on our head and a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His unlimited knowledge. (Matt. 10:29-31).

Matt 10:29 "Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And {yet} not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.

Matt 10:30 "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Matt 10:31 "So do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows.

8. The Psalmist described God's unlimited knowledge with these words. (Psa. 139:1-6).

Ps 139:1 O LORD, You have searched me and known {me.}

Ps 139:2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar.

Ps 139:3 You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are intimately acquainted with all my ways.

Ps 139:4 Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all.

Ps 139:5 You have enclosed me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me.

Ps 139:6 {Such} knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is {too} high, I cannot attain to it.

a. The Psalmist here powerfully described the unlimited knowledge of God.

b. He described One who is truly infinite [all-knowing] in His knowledge.

Satan Is One Who Cares About Man

1. There are some who believe that Satan is one who cares about man.

a. They believe Satan wants man to enjoy all the pleasures of the flesh without any consequences.

b. Some erroneously believe he cares for man and desires that man be happy and enjoy the works of the

flesh.

- c. Satan permits man to do as he pleases knowing man will reap what he has sown.
- d. There are many, perhaps thousands or even millions in the world, who worship him.

2. That Satan cares about man is clearly refuted by the Scriptures.

3. Satan is constantly seeking to devour man spiritually. (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.

- a. Satan seeks "to devour" man.
- b. He wants to separate man from God and to torment man forever in hell.
- c. There is not an ounce of love or goodness in his heart.

4. Satan is doomed to hell.

- a. He knows this and his angels know this. (Matt. 25:41)
- b. The demons [unclean spirits], who may be fallen angels, know they are doomed for hell. (Matt. 8:29).

Matt 8:29 And they cried out, saying, "What business do we have with each other, Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?"

5. Satan knows his eternal sentence, but he is unlike the rich man who was lost.

- a. The rich man, in the account of the rich man and Lazarus, wanted his brothers to be saved. (Lk. 16:26-31).

Luke 16:26 'And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and {that} none may cross over from there to us.'

Luke 16:27 "And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, that you send him to my father's house--

Luke 16:28 for I have five brothers--in order that he may warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

Luke 16:29 "But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.'

Luke 16:30 "But he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!'

Luke 16:31 "But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'"

- b. Satan wants everyone to be lost and looks forward to tormenting the lost forever and ever.
- c. He is the exact opposite of the loving God who gave His Son that all might be saved. (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:8; Heb. 2:9).

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Heb 2:9 But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, {namely,} Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

d. Satan promises pleasure, but lies about the temporal and eternal consequences of sin. (Gal. 6:7-8).

Gal 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.

Gal 6:8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

e. Many wicked suffer much in this life, and many live shorter lives. (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.

f. All his victims will suffer eternal punishment in the life to come. (2 Thess. 1:7-10; Matt. 25:41,46).

2 Thess 1:7 and {to give} relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,

2 Thess 1:8 dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

2 Thess 1:9 These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

2 Thess 1:10 when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed--for our testimony to you was believed.

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;

Matt 25:46 "These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Satan Will Be Merciful To Those In Hell

1. Some people, even some Christians, believe Satan will be merciful to those in hell.
2. They believe he will not punish those in hell a long time nor will his punishment be severe.
3. This foolish thinking is not supported by the Scriptures.
4. Hell is described as **a horrible place of endless suffering.**
5. **Satan is a cruel being who delights in afflicting on others the same suffering that he and his angels will experience.**
 - a. We have a glimpse of the horrors of hell when we read what Jesus described the rich man in Hades. (Lk. 16:22-25)

Luke 16:22 "Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried.

Luke 16:23 "In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and *saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom.

Luke 16:24 "And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that

he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.'

Luke 16:25 "But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and **you are in agony**.

b. Jesus spoke these frightening words about hell. (Matt. 13:41, 42; 25:46; Mk. 9:43).

Matt 13:41 "The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness,

Matt 13:42 and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matt 25:46 "These will go away into **eternal punishment**, but the righteous into eternal life."

Mark 9:43 "If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life crippled, than, having your two hands, to **go into hell, into the unquenchable fire**,

c. The book of Revelation reveals that not even Satan himself will escape "the lake of fire and brimstone." (Rev. 20:10).

Rev 20:10 And the devil who deceived them was **thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone**, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and **they will be tormented day and night forever and ever**.

Conclusion

1. We have examined and exposed as false some of the common myths about Satan.
2. It is vital that we be not duped by these myths, but we put our complete trust in the Father and His Son.
3. They are eternal, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, loving, faithful!
4. Those trusting in the Father and the Son will live forever with them in the Paradise of God.
5. May all of us trust the Father and the Son and live to please them.

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