

KEEP SATAN AWAY

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There are horrible consequences to sin.

So ... for our own good ... it's good advice to avoid sin. Sin can give opportunity or place to the devil. Satan is invisible to our eyes ... but ... he is very real ... and dangerous.

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be sober, be vigilant; (watchful ... on guard) because your adversary (your enemy ... one who is out to get you) the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

Some people ... satan CAN DEVOUR!! They have let their guard down.

Ephesians 6:10-14

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. (The schemings, the tactics) For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. (**)Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

(**) = 4 RANKS OF DEMONS?

*Principalities

*Powers

*Rulers of the darkness of this age

*Spiritual hosts of wickedness in the Heavenly Places

2 Timothy 2:24-26

And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

2 Timothy 2:24-26 THE MESSAGE BIBLE

God's servant must not be argumentative, but a gentle listener and a teacher who keeps cool, working firmly but patiently with those who refuse to obey. You never know how or when God might sober them up with a change of heart and a turning to the truth, enabling them to escape the devil's trap, where they are caught and held captive, forced to run his errands.

A casual approach to sin can open the doors to satan.

1 John 5:18

We know that whoever is born (begotten) of God does not sin; (doesn't have a sinful lifestyle) but he who has been born of God keeps (guards) himself, and the wicked one does not touch (to fasten oneself to, to adhere to, to cling to) him. (Is not living a lifestyle of sin)

Thankfully, there are serious limitations as to what satan can do to us. Satan and his demons can't injure us, destroy us, cut the brakes on our car (we have to remember they are really evil). Satan wants to destroy or kill. He can do it indirectly by getting to us through our minds ... through our thoughts. Ultimately, he needs our co-operation!! It's our decisions, our choices that lead to our destruction. Satan's battleground is in our minds. If he can persuade us to sin ... then satan knows the consequences of our sin will destroy us. And ... it's us who chooses!!

Genesis 3:1-7

Now the serpent (Hebrew: nachash ... shining one/glorious one ... see Bulinger's Companion Bible) was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' " (inaccurate ... there is no record of God saying you can't touch the tree!!)

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. (a satanic lie) For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, (thus appealing to her vanity) she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

Satan couldn't directly destroy them. He sowed doubt ... he triggered lust and vanity. **Then Eve and Adam MADE THE DECISION. SATAN GOT HIS WAY BY GETTING THEM TO TAKE ACTION.** Satan can't just come and destroy us ... his ways are pretty much still the same.

1 John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or the things in the world. (The society we live in) If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. (We choose. We co-operate with satan).

1 John 2:15-17 THE MESSAGE BIBLE

Don't love the world's ways. Don't love the world's goods. Love of the world squeezes out love for the Father. Practically everything that goes on in the world—wanting your own way, wanting everything for yourself,

wanting to appear important—has nothing to do with the Father. It just isolates you from him. The world and all its wanting, wanting, wanting is on the way out—but whoever does what God wants is set for eternity.

2 Corinthians 11:1-4

Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly—and indeed you do bear with me. For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. **But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so (in the same way) your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.**

For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works. (Watch out for individuals who are out to seduce you away from The Truth ... that's your choice!!!)

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, (they are stumbling around in the dark) who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Satan wants people to be poor, sick, have broken homes, he wants violence and war to erupt. Our politicians often lead us down those roads ... they are blind ... blinded by satan ... who can lead nations to war. He can stir up evil emotions.

Ephesians 2:1-3

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to **the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience**, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. (many people right now have the spirit of satan working in them.)

Satan is the motivator ... but we choose. He brings destruction and ultimately ... death!!

Acts 4:32-37

Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus, having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 5:1-11

But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, **"Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."**

Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things. And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him.

Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. And Peter answered her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?"

She said, "Yes, for so much."

Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out."

Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband. So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things.

These two people were clearly tricked by satan. But ... they went along with it. He needed their co-operation. They lied to God. They put on a hypocritical pretence to the brethren.

John 13:21-30

When Jesus had said these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me."

Then the disciples looked at one another, perplexed about whom He spoke. Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved. Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask who it was of whom He spoke.

Then, leaning back on Jesus' breast, he said to Him, "Lord, who is it?"

Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it." And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas

Iscariot, the son of Simon. Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him.

Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly." But no one at the table knew for what reason He said this to him. For some thought, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, "Buy those things we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor.

Having received the piece of bread, he then went out immediately. And it was night. (Satan had already been "working" on Judas)

John 13:2

And supper being ended, **the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him,** (satan influenced an apostle ... leading to his death)

Ephesians 4:26-27

"Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place (opportunity) to the devil.

Ephesians 4:27 AMPLIFIED BIBLE

Leave no [such] room or foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him].

2 Corinthians 2:8-11

Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him. For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, **lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.**

Don't let satan exploit us!! We are not ignorant of satan's devices --- schemes/plots/plans ...SCUD = Satan Continuously Uses Distractions.

James 3:16

For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.

James 4:7

Therefore submit to God. **Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**

Proverbs 4:20-27

My son, give attention to my words;
Incline your ear to my sayings.
Do not let them depart from your eyes;
Keep them in the midst of your heart;
For they are life to those who find them,
And health to all their flesh.

Keep your heart with all diligence,

For out of it spring the issues of life. GUARD YOUR HEART!!

Put away from you a deceitful mouth,
And put perverse lips far from you.
Let your eyes look straight ahead,
And your eyelids look right before you. (don't be distracted ... stay on God's path)
Ponder the path of your feet,
And let all your ways be established.
Do not turn to the right or the left;
Remove your foot from evil.

Proverbs 4:23 NLT

Guard your heart above all else,
for it determines the course of your life.

Proverbs 4:23 NIV

Above everything else, guard your heart.
It is where your life comes from.

Philippians 4:4-8

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!
Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.
Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (shall garrison and mount guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amplified Bible)

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things

are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. (WE CHOOSE!!)

So ... if we guard our minds ... make right choices ... then satan can't touch us. So Avoid sin and avoid its consequences. KEEP SATAN AWAY!!