



THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

Devices of the Devil

Sis. Techie Rodriguez, Elder-Founder
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Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings (1 Pt. 5: 8-9).

- Satan is our enemy; he is like a roaring lion, a great imitator. He acts like God. Lion of Judah is one of the names of Jesus.
- Our struggle to live righteously is a struggle against the dark forces of Satan.
- The thief does not come except to steal, kill, and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full (Jn. 10:10).

Who is Satan? Satan is formerly an angel of God, head of heavenly host; head of the worship team in heaven. He wanted to be like God, and they were banished from heaven because of the sin of pride.

Many names of Satan:

Lucifer (Is. 14:12)

Beelzebul which means the Prince of Devils - a very strong satanic force (Mt. 12:24-27)

- Our struggle is not against blood and flesh, but against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms (Eph. 6:12)
- Spirit of unforgiveness (hatred, bitterness, destroyer, murder)

Belial. Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? (2 Cor. 6:14)

Prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2). The spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

Father of all Lies, Murderer, Devil (Jn. 8:44). A lie has no color; a lie is a lie.

Old Serpent & Great Dragon (Rev. 12:19). Remove dragons and snakes at your home.

- There are 52 demon spirits (main spirits).

He is the **adversary** stalking us like a lion (1 Pt. 5:8), but he cannot harm us as he is only acting like a lion.

There are many ways that the devil threatens us, such as the spirit of FEAR.

What does Satan look like?

Legends and imaginations give us horrible images, but the Bible says the devil is very subtle (Gen. 3:1), which means lovely.

On temptation:

- Blessed is the man who perseveres in temptation; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him (Jas. 1:12).
- Do not say that God tempted you for God does not tempt anyone. Each person is tempted by his desire. Then desire conceives and brings forth sin, and when sin reaches maturity, it gives birth to death.
- God is not subject to temptation or evil.
- Satan is the one who tempts, but he cannot devour us if we do not allow him. The temptation is not a sin, but acting on it is.
- The devil will entice us through our senses.
- We are warned that we **MUST** have the mind of Jesus. Have a renewed mind to know the will of God - the good, and perfect in the eyes of God.
- Satan was an angel, and as a spiritual being would allow him to appear as anything he wanted, he can appear as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14).

I. The Danger of the Devil

- A. **Personal enemy.** Satan tells us that if we have angels on assignment, there is also a devil assigned to us. He is a powerful enemy.

II. The Desire of the Devil

- A. **Deceive you.** It is not easy to deceive us if we know the truth, and the truth will set us free. Read and study the Word of God, our best weapon.
- B. **Disgrace you.** The devil seeks to fill our hearts with evil, and lie to the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:3). Do not make a promise if you do not intend to

fulfill it. Do not make a vow to God, lest you will be cursed (Eccl. 5:4).

- Man is separated from God because the devil deceived Adam and Eve. Adam did not understand the truth that he was given the authority to be the master of all creation.
- Do not look at the situation you are in because we know that everything will work out for the good of those who love Him (Rom. 8:28).
- When there are open doors, Satan will not make it easy for us. He will not make it easy for anyone who is doing something for God.
- Fight when the devil is trying to snatch the truth from you. Fight by using the Word of God.
- We need to know how the devil attacks. People perish because they do not know the Word of God (Hos. 4:6).
- Satan was misusing the Scriptures when he was tempting Jesus (Mt. 4:6).
- He knows that you will be blessed when you obey, so he will make you disobey.
- Do not gaze on the things you see but on the things unseen - your faith in God. Walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7).

Transcriber/Writer: Sis. Yvonne J. Gaviola

Editor: Sis. Rhia G. Ilagan

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