

“THEN THE DEVIL COMES”

I. THE DEVIL COMES WHEN THE WORD OF GOD IS PREACHED

A. Luke 8:9-12

As the parable of the sower so clearly teaches, the devil will come when God's word is proclaimed. He desperately wants to take it out of your heart!

B. 2nd Thessalonians 2:9-12

Satan's work is to deceive people so that they will not be saved. God allows this to occur so that our choice to serve Him is an act of free will, not compulsion.

C. Acts 13:4-12

The false prophet Bar-Jesus, a.k.a. Elymas the sorcerer, was rightly called a “son of the devil” for “seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith”.

II. THE DEVIL COMES WHEN WE PLAN OUR GIVING

A. Acts 4:32-5:11

While others in the church were sacrificing all they had to meet the needs of their brethren, Satan filled the heart of Ananias to lie to God about his gift.

B. Malachi 3:8

God is robbed when our giving is insufficient.

C. 2nd Corinthians 8:12; 9:6-7

God does not require more of us than we can afford, but He does expect our giving to be generous and cheerful.

III. THE DEVIL COMES WHEN WE ARE SELFISH AND GREEDY

A. John 13:1-2; Matthew 26:14-16

It was the devil who put it in Judas' heart to betray Jesus, and Judas' motive was money.

B. John 12:1-6

The same devilish motive of greed caused Judas to pilfer the treasury of the Lord and led him to criticize the generosity of another.

C. **1st Timothy 6:10**

“The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil” because it will cause sin to multiply.

IV. **THE DEVIL COMES WHEN WE ARE WEAK AND WEARY**

A. **Luke 4:1-3**

The devil came to Jesus when He was weary from hunger. The first temptation Satan used on this occasion was to urge Christ to abuse His miraculous abilities to satisfy that hunger.

B. **Genesis 25:29-34**

When Esau was famished from an unsuccessful hunting trip, Jacob used the occasion to take away the birthright. Compared to what he wanted at the moment, Esau despised what he should have cherished.

C. **Hebrews 12:1-3, 14-16**

Jesus' own endurance against temptation is our example that we should overcome weariness, whereas Esau profaned what was holy.

D. **Galatians 6:9**

It is easy to become weary and discouraged, but an award awaits those who do not lose heart.

V. **THE DEVIL COMES WHEN THE “SONS OF GOD” ASSEMBLE**

A. **Job 1:6; 2:1**

When the *“sons of God”*, who were in this instance most likely angels, *“came to present themselves before the Lord... Satan also came in among them”*.

B. **Romans 8:14; Galatians 3:26**

Today, the term *“sons of God”* refers to Spirit-led, baptized believers in Christ.

C. **2nd Corinthians 11:13-15**

If Satan could repeatedly infiltrate a gathering of angels, he can certainly sneak in to the assemblies of the church. He is a master of disguise, the original deceiver.

D. Revelation 2:8-9

Some churches become synagogues of Satan because of the evil practiced by their members.

CONCLUSION

A. 1st Peter 5:8-9

Knowing now that the devil will attack you at every opportunity, be prepared to resist him.

B. James 4:7

Of course, resistance to the devil cannot happen without submission to God. Have you submitted to Him?