

HIS INTRODUCTION

Satan Is Down, But Not Out

You must realize he is still active today. If you don't believe that you have an enemy. If you don't believe that you have a spiritual force fighting against you, you will not see the need to resist him in your life as the Bible teaches. You will also not see the need for a savior.

Satan Works In Isolation

When you think God is far, when you think your faith is not real, and when you think the church does not care — Satan attacks the mind to deceive you, and make you believe everything is untrue, false, and not even happening. To oppress your life in Christ.

Reflect on this: have you ever felt lonely and isolated and fearful and felt tempted?

Satan Was No Atheist

He knows His theology. He knows the Bible well and knows that your sins separate you from God. He will use the Bible against you. Making you think God is powerless is Satan's head game! Keeping people from believing in God or making your Christian faith so oppressed, it becomes shipwrecked and dead.

SIGNS OF PRACTICAL ATHEISM

Psalm 10 (NKJV)

vv. 2–4 - arrogant and flashy before others:

2 The wicked in his pride persecutes the poor; Let them be caught in the plots which they have devised. 3 For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire; He blesses the greedy and renounces the Lord. 4 The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts.

This is the kind of arrogance that makes one feel good about, especially comparing themselves with others.

v. 5 - unfairly gets ahead in life:
5 His ways are always prospering; Your judgments are far above, out of his sight; As for all his enemies, he sneers at them.

Getting ahead by taking advantage of situations unfairly for their own benefit, always looking out for themselves.

v. 6 - is not worried about people challenging them:
6 He has said in his heart, "I shall not be moved; I shall never be in adversity."

They are willing to fight for their right to get what they want.

v. 7 - has a mouth full of negativity:
7 His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and oppression; Under his tongue is trouble and iniquity.

They protect themselves by giving others trouble, with words to attack people, instead of lifting them up.

vv. 8-10 - takes advantage of weak people:
8 He sits in the lurking places of the villages; In the secret places he murders the innocent; His eyes are secretly fixed on the helpless. 9 He lies in wait secretly, as a lion in his den; He lies in wait to catch the poor; He catches the poor when he draws him into his net. 10 So he crouches, he lies low, That the helpless may fall by his strength.

The practical atheist looks at people not to help them, but to use them for their own gain.

v. 11 - doesn't believe in God's sovereignty and power:
11 He has said in his heart, "God has forgotten; He hides His face; He will never see."

A practical atheist knows God is there, but acts as if they just don't care.

SATANIC PITS

When Satan is able to control the heart, he is able to trap and control that person. We see this in Judas in John 13:2 - the devil put the idea to betray Jesus in his, as the verse says, heart.

Christian Pits?
Some people say that Satan cannot affect believers. This is not true, and this is not what the Bible teaches.
Important point: Christians, can be deceived and attacked by Satan, but through faith in Jesus Christ, we have power over him.

Pit Example: Grudges
You have to notice that grudges are not of God, but a trap of Satan. Here is the truth: an unrighteous grudge is spiritually far worse for the grudge holder than for the other person.
You see this is the gospel. This is how you get out of your OWN snake pit.

You live out the gospel.

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

Reflect on this: have you gotten used to your own sin? Are you a practical atheist? Do you live as though you know God is there but you just don't care?

We Must Repent…

Satanic attack is a battle of truth. Deception against the Logos. A battle of faith in the gospel and its application of repentance and fulfillment by forgiving others.

True repentance sounds like this, "Lord, change everything. Change everything about me that you don't like..and do not let Satan stand against."

VICTORY IN THE GOSPEL

Grace — Why We Have Victory

Nothing is more graceful than while people are wicked and enjoy it, that God would send his Son - Jesus Christ, to die for them.

You and I — without believing in Jesus and without the Holy Spirit. We are the vipers in this world. Romans 3 says, all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, justified by His grace through the redemption in Christ Jesus, as a propitiation by His blood, through faith…

It is the payment of Jesus, and in this act of grace that we have forgiveness. This is why God's grace is victory.

Truth — How We Have Victory

Christus Victor: our sins are forgiven as Jesus has wiped out the law of judgment, which disarms Satan. Satan will be thrown into the bottomless pit, forever and ever.

Power In The Truth

Question: What makes the dark scary? The darkness is the absence of truth.

This is the truth: Jesus says, *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

Reflect on this: Do you believe what Jesus said? Do you believe in the power of the gospel?

In Christ, you can have the light of victory: the light shines in the darkness, and the outer darkness cannot overtake it.

Repent, believe, and live in victory, so that the god of the earth, Satan, will oppress you no more.

Jesse Cesario
May 14-15, 2022

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class 401 Mission

May 15, Sunday
1:00pm – 5:00pm

class 210 SG Training

May 22, Sunday
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