

## Doctrine of the Strategy of Satan

1. The Devil has a strategy for the nations of the world.

Isa 14:12 How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How are you cut down to the ground, you who did weaken the nations!

2. Satan has a strategy to blind unbelievers to the good news of salvation.

2Co 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Joh 12:40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

Rom 11:7 What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded.

2Co 3:14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the – same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ.  
2Co 3:15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.

3. Satan has a strategy for believers.

3.1 For example he loves to create divisions and diversions.

2Co 2:9 The reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything.

2Co 2:10 If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven--if there was anything to forgive--I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake,

2Co 2:11 in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

3.2 Satan likes to get us under his control and then accuse us before God. This certainly included the believers of the Old Testament. Thanks be unto God we have a Mediator in heaven--the Lord Jesus Christ.

Zec 3:1 And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

Zec 3:2 And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Zec 3:3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.

Zec 3:4 And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

Zec 3:5 And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD stood by.

Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

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3.3 Satan sponsors reversionism in order to control us.

2Co 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

3.4 Satan wants to frustrate the will of God for our life.

1Th 2:18 Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us.

3.5 He neutralizes doctrine and its application through fear, reaction and boredom.

1Pe 5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God that He may exalt you in due time.

1Pe 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

1Pe 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

1Pe 5:9 Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

3.6 Satan wants destroy our occupation with Christ and to get our focus on people and things.

Jer 17:5 This is what the LORD says: "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depends on flesh for his strength and whose heart turns away from the LORD.

Jer 17:6 He will be like a bush in the wastelands; he will not see prosperity when it comes. He will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives.

Jer 17:7 "But blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him.

3.7 Satan wants to get us involved in improving the Devil's world.

### 3.8 Satan wants to inculcate the fear of death.

Heb 2:14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

Heb 2:15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

### 4. Religion is a part of the Devil's strategy for the entire world.

2Co 11:13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

2Co 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

2Co 11:15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

1Ti 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

### 5. False teachers are part of his strategy Mat 7:15-23.

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Mat 7:22 Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?'

Mat 7:23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

### 5.1 God's people in all ages have need to beware of deceptive leaders.

Deu 13:1 If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you a miraculous sign or wonder,

Deu 13:2 and if the sign or wonder of which he has spoken takes place, and he says, "Let us follow other gods" (gods you have not known) "and let us worship them,"

Deu 13:3 you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. The LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Acts 20:29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock.

1Jo 4:1 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

Rev 13:12 He exercised all the authority of the first beast on his behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed.

Rev 13:13 And he performed great and miraculous signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men.

Rev 13:14 Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth. He ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived.

5.2 Unfortunately the phrase "By their fruits you shall know them" has been terribly misunderstood.

5.2.1 Wycliffe writes of this matter: "The doctrines produced by these false prophets, rather than the works they perform ... are in view ... since outward appearances may not cause suspicion."

5.3 The test of a communicator of the Word is his conformity to Scripture. The works of the false teacher very often will appear marvelous and even Christ 'centered.'

Rom 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

Rom 16:18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own emotions; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

Mat 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Mat 7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

Mat 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

6. Paul makes clear there is only one gospel and we have no need for extra-biblical revelation.

Gal 1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Gal 1:9 As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

