

Satan's Work Against Christ and Christians

1 Peter 5:8

By Larry Bailey of Sidney, NY

Introduction: Descriptions of Satan: Adversary, 1 Peter 5:8; Accuser, Revelation 12:10; Deceiver, Liar, Revelation 12:9; John 8:44. It is no surprise then that Satan worked against Christ and works against Christians too. Christ overcame, John 16:33; Revelation 3:21 – we also must strive against Satan so that we will overcome, Ephesians 6:10-18.

In this lesson, study with me, how Satan worked against Christ and how Christ overcame. Then we'll study how Satan works against us – and how we can overcome.

I. Satan Worked Against Christ

A. Temptations, Hebrews 4:15

1. Defined: James 1:13-15; Ephesians 2:3
2. Illustrated: Genesis 1:31; 3:1-13 Though God said His creation was very good – Satan deceived Eve by desire of flesh (good for food) and pride (make one wise) and pleasant to eyes. She took the fruit and thus sinned. (1 Timothy 2:14)

B. Satan Tempted Jesus In The Same Way

1. Matthew 4:1-11:
 - a. Vs. 3: Stones to bread – use divine power for selfish gain.
 - b. Vs. 6: throw yourself down – make God responsible for your actions.
 - c. Vs. 8: fall down and worship me – short cut to glory of world He was shown – no suffering and death.
2. Jesus overcame by:
 - a. Word of God, Deuteronomy 8:3; 6:16, 13.
 - b. Love of right, Hebrews 1:8, 9.
 - c. Luke 4:13, Satan left, opportune time.

C. Other Temptations:

1. By Friend, Matthew 16:21-23, No death. Jesus said, Mind the things of God (Matthew 17:5).
2. Matthew 22:15, 23, 35: entangle in talk – consider, Matthew 12:37 – Jesus explained God's word correctly!
3. Matthew 27:35 – Jesus crucified – But look at what Jesus could have done, Matthew 26:53; John 12:27; Matthew 26:38, 39; Hebrews 12:2.

D. Jesus obeyed God, Philippians 2:5-11, through Trust in God, 1 Peter 2:23

II. Satan Works Against Us

A. To Take Away Word of God, Matthew 13:19; 2 Corinthians 4:3, 4

B. Persecutes – so we'll turn to easier path, Matthew 13:21; John 12:42, 43; Galatians 1:10; 1 Peter 1:6-9; Revelation 2:10.

C. Draws hearts away through desire for things, Mark 4:19; Luke 12:15-21; 1 Timothy 6:9.

D. Others:

1. Lust of Flesh, Philippians 1:16; 3:18, 19 – Some use religion as way of gain – perhaps gain customers, friends, favor of mate looks good on record, etc.
2. Conform to World in talk, dress, use of time, desire for money, position – so that our #1 goal is not God's favor but things in world. The 24/7 world we live in is a tremendous temptation for Christians – will we stand against putting God in 2nd place? Romans 12:1, 2; Colossians 3:1-4.
3. Churches even bow to this temptation – seek gain numbers through worldly attractions and through compromise of truth.
4. Cast our work onto God: "Christ has done it all" nothing for me to do to be saved (Hebrews 5:8, 9). Someone needs help, teaching, correction, etc. "I Prayed for Him." Good, but not enough if we did not do what we should have. Luke 6:46; 17:10; Ephesians 6:13, having done all – Galatians 6:10, Let us DO GOOD – 1 John 3:18.

III. **Overcoming Satan**

A. Jesus Did! John 16:33; Revelation 3:21

1. Jesus trusted God, 1 Peter 2:23
2. Jesus humbly obeyed God, Philippians 2:5-11
3. Jesus loved God, right, Hebrews 1:8, 9
4. Jesus always pleased God, John 8:28, 29.

B. You and I will overcome Satan in Christ

1. 1 John 4:4; 5:4.
2. Overcome is in each of the 7 letters in Revelation 2 & 3

C. Resist the devil, 1 Peter 5:8, 9. Flee the devil, 2 Timothy 2:22, Don't give place to evil, Ephesians 4:27.

Conclusion: With prayer, God's help and "having done all" we will stand! Ephesians 6:10-18.

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