



"Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "<u>Did God really say</u>, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?""

The Enemy's Strategy Exposed



Christians are at war with the devil. While some Christians are aware of the spiritual warfare around us, others are less cognizant of the influence of the unseen spiritual realm. This unseen war is not a realm of random spiritual occurrences, but it is a well organized spiritual army of the devil and his demons. The spiritual enemy that Christians are fighting has a strategy and knowing this strategy is key to the success of the Christian.

The devil is clever, but not creative. This means that his strategy of spiritual warfare is a good one, because it is effective; but it lacks creativity, meaning it doesn't change. Satan does the same plan of attack over and over again. The devil's strategy is simply to attack God's WORD(doubt, distort, disbelief). We see this in our verse of the day where the serpent(devil) planted doubt in Eve's mind about God's WORD by asking, "Did God really say..?" After doubt and distortion came full disbelief. From questioning if God said they should eat from the tree, the devil next moved aggressively to calling God a liar, stating "God knows you won't surely die if you eat from the tree." But that day when they ate the fruit, death came into the world (Romans 5:12).

The devil's strategy remains the same. When Jesus was baptized, God declared to the crowd, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased". Shortly after Jesus had received this WORD of affirmation from God, the devil attacked God's WORD in the wilderness temptations, stating, "If you really are the beloved Son of God". Satan would attack God's WORD, first with doubt, insinuating, if God really loves you why are you starving in the desert (turn these stones to bread)? Next while quoting scripture, came distortion of God's WORD, suggesting, since God said He loves you, why don't you show off, jump from here and the angels will protect you. And finally came full disbelief, implying, God doesn't love you, he hasn't given you the kingdoms of the world yet, worship me and I'll give you the kingdoms of the world.

The defense against this attack is faith. Today the devil continues trying to get believers to doubt, distort, or totally disbelieve God's WORD - which is the Bible. We see the evidence of this as positions change in the Body of Christ about marriage, the value of life, and the exclusivity of salvation in Christ alone. The devil's goal is for us to live life our own way, apart from how God's WORD has revealed and commanded us to live. The counter to the devil's clever, but not creative strategy, is faith. We are told that faith comes by hearing, and hearing the WORD of God. So don't be caught off guard, you now know the devil's strategy, it has been exposed to you. So keep the faith, by reading God's WORD, believe it, and most importantly, obey it.

-Your brother in Christ, WNL

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Imagine the power of God's WORD if it is the sole target of Satan's attacks."

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, thank you for the power of the WORD which is the target of the enemy's attacks and also the foundation for my faith. This faith which comes from your WORD is precious because it saves everyone who puts their trust in Jesus Christ. Help me to study your WORD, receive the faith, and walk in obedience to your WORD daily. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.



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