

# GOD, the Devil & Demons

2 Corinthians 11:1-15

Genesis 3:1-13

Galatians 1:1-10



2 February 2025

**The Times We Live In** (Luke 21:34-36)

**Goals for 2025 - 4 Discipline**

## Foundational Truth: God and the Devil

- (Genesis 1:1) God is the **CREATOR** of **His Universe**. (Hebrews 1:3)
- (Colossians 1:15-17) All things were created through Christ and for Christ. And all things continue to exist by Him. (**Proverbs 16:4**; Romans 11:36; Hebrews 2:10; Colossians 1:15-17 (**v.16**); **Revelation 4:11**)
- (Acts 10:36) Christ is **lord over ALL**. He is the Lord over all history.
- (Job 1-2) God allowed (empowered) Satan to seriously afflict Job.
- (1 Kings 22) God sent lying spirits into false prophets.
- (Matthew 8:31-32) Demons begged Christ to permit them to enter swine.
- (Luke 22:31) Satan asked Christ to “sift” Peter.

## Paul's Fear (2 Corinthians 11:3)

- Eve was deceived by the *craftiness* of Satan. (See Ephesians 4:14)
- Minds corrupted *from* the **simplicity (singleness) that is in Christ**.
- TRUTH: Many have been, are being, and will be deceived! (Matthew 24:4-5, 11, 24; 2 Peter 2:1-3)  
→ 2 Timothy 3:13 - Since the 1<sup>st</sup> Century deception has gotten worse and worse. **MEDITATE**.

## Narrow-Minded Gospel Preaching (2 Corinthians 11:4)

- There are **many** different Christs.
- There are **many** different gospels.
- There is only **ONE TRUE GOSPEL**. (Galatians 1:6-9)
- Christ gave us, through Paul, the one true gospel in Romans 1-11 (Gal 1:11-12).

## “Gifted Tongue” vs. Knowledge and Example (2 Corinthians 11:5-6)

- (vv. 5-6) Paul vs the “super apostles” at Corinth.
- (v. 6) Paul gave not only the Gospel but also himself. (1 Thessalonians 2:8)

## “Follow the Money” (2 Corinthians 11:7-12)

- Paul preached and taught “free of charge” at Corinth.
- Others were peddling the Word of God. (2 Corinthians 2:17; Romans 16:18)
- (v. 8) Paul was supported by churches in Macedonia. (2 Corinthians 8:1-5)
  - In GREAT TRIAL of AFFLICTION
  - Their ABUNDANCE of JOY
  - In their DEEP POVERTY
  - BEYOND their ability they gave freely and willingly.
  - They would not take “NO” for an answer. They begged to GIVE.
  - They first gave themselves to God and then to Paul.

## BEWARE: The Master of Disguises (2 Corinthians 11:13-15)

- Paul uses words concerning the false teachers at Corinth:
  - ① “false apostles”
  - ② “deceitful workers”
  - ③ “disguising themselves as apostles of Christ”
  - ④ “disguising themselves as ministers of righteousness”
- (v. 14) Satan HIMSELF “transforms himself as an angel of light!”
- Satan is the father of lies. (John 8:44)
- ★ OF THESE WE ARE TO BEWARE.
- Deceiver/deceivers/deceived
  - We are warned by Christ: Matthew 7:14; 24:4-5, 11, 24
  - We are warned by Peter: 2 Peter 2:1-3
- Three times in these verses Paul uses the verb “to transform” which in the Greek means “to disguise” or “to masquerade” - to put a mask on! To be something DIFFERENT on the outside than on the inside!! (Matthew 23:27)
- Counterfeits never show themselves for who they really are!
- Satan is the great counterfeiter.
- These **counterfeits** preached a **counterfeit** gospel and led people to a **counterfeit** heaven! A **counterfeit** by design is for the purpose of misleading and deceiving “unsuspecting” targets! See Jude 4; 2 Peter 2:1-3; Matt 7:15.
- A **counterfeit** is WORTHLESS whether is a 50euro Schein or gospel!!

## BEWARE of the DOCTRINE of Demons (1 Timothy 4:1)

- ① They believe that there is only one God. (James 2:19)
- ② They believe that Jesus is the Son of the Most High God. (Matthew 8:29, Mark 1:24; 5:7; Luke 4:34; 8:28)
- ③ They know Jesus to be the Christ. (Luke 4:41)
- ④ They believe in a day of judgment and Christ is judge. (Matthew 8:29)
- ⑤ They believe that they will be tormented. (Matthew 8:29)
- ⑥ They know that Jesus of Nazareth is the SOVEREIGN LORD and that they can do nothing without Him commanding it! (Matthew 8:31)

⑦ They know that Jesus' disciples preach salvation. (Acts 16:17)

⑧ BUT they turn the grace of God into lewdness. (Jude 4)

## BEWARE - 1 John 5:19

- THE WHOLE WORLD!
- Are you praying daily for your children?



## BEWARE: OUR Adversary (1 Peter 5:8)

- “sober” - “to be calm, collected in spirit; circumspect” - see Ephesians 5:15-16.
- “vigilant” - “to watch; to give strict attention to; be cautious; take heed lest through remission or indolence some destructive calamity suddenly overtake one”
- The Christian life is not only a **race** but a **daily battle**.
- A Christian has many enemies – the devil and his demons, the world system, and his won flesh. They are against the disciple all three daily.
- A Christian cannot be “lazy” (Hebrews 6:11-12) or “complacent” (Zeph 1:12).
- Christ commanded His disciples to “**Watch and pray**, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.” (Matthew 26:41)
- (Proverbs 4:23) “**GUARD** your heart (mind, will, and emotions - your whole person) above all else (with all diligence), for it is the source of your life.” Satan and the world targets our hearts (minds) constantly.

### ★ BECAUSE . . .

- His name is SATAN - “**YOUR ENEMY**”
  - “devil” - “slander”; “false accuser”
  - “adversary” - “opponent”
  - “roaring lion” - predator, one who hunts to kill!
    - Psalm 7:1-2; 10:9-10; 17:12; **Ezekiel 22:25**.
    - Jesus likens false teacher as **ravenous wolves**. (Matthew 7:15)
    - Paul, likewise, “**savage wolves**” - **ACTS 20:28-29**
  - “seeking to devour” - “to swallow up”
- Great dragon that IS deceiving the world today! - Revelation 12:9

## BEWARE: Of Fiery Darts (Ephesians 6:10-18)

- Shield of Faith - Guarding your heart! (Proverbs 4:23)
- Helmet of Salvation - Guarding your mind.
- (Ephesians 6:11) A disciple NEEDS the WHOLE armor of GOD so that he may STAND against the wiles (skill and ways of tricking people into doing what you want) of the devil. (See 1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 4:1-4)

## BEWARE: Of the Devil's Ways/Devices

- Ephesians 4:14 - disciples are to be mature in not being carried about with every wind of DOCTRINE, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting/scheming.

- 2 Corinthians 2:11 - We are not to be ignorant of his devices.
- 2 Corinthians 4:4 - He blinds the minds of unbelievers because they do not love the truth.
- 2 Thessalonians 2:9-11 - that LIE comes from God!
- 2 Peter 2:1-3 - False teacher work in almost every church. These are evil men who creep in unnoticed because no one tests them. They secretly spread **destructive heresies**. **MANY** will follow their **destructive ways**. (Jude 4; Revelation 2:2; Galatians 1:7; 1 John 4:1; 2 Thess 5:21; Isaiah 8:20)

### **BEWARE: Devils and Demons Use God's Word** (Matthew 4:1-11)

- They will pervert it. (Galatians 1:7)
- They handle it deceitfully. (2 Corinthians 2:17; 4:2)

### **God and Satan** (Revelation 20:2-3, 7-8; Philippians 2:5-11)

#### ★ **WHEN GOD IS FINISHED USING SATAN HE WILL HE WILL PUNISH HIM!**

- (See an example: Isaiah 10:5-15 - especially v. 12)
- (Rev 20:2-3) Satan locked up for 1,000 years - man cannot blame Satan for his sins!!!
- (Revelation 20:7-8) Still he will have followers.
- (Revelation 20:10) Satan will be the third being cast into hell.

### **BEWARE! – BE DOERS of GOD'S WORD!**

- If God tells us to BEWARE we can be sure that the threat is real. Only a FOOL ignores God. (Psalm 14:1; 53:1; Matthew 7:24-29)
- Understand and tremble at the might and sovereignty of God. (Psalm 99:1; Isaiah 46:8-11; Daniel 4:35; Psalm 115:3; 135:6)
- We are called to be wise as serpents; harmless as doves. (Matt 10:16; Eph 5:15)
- We must be on our guard constantly. (Proverbs 4:23; 1 Peter 5:8)
- Deceit and deceivers are worse today than they were in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century. Therefore, we must BEWARE "lest anyone cheat us through world philosophy,, empty deceit, traditions of men, persuasive words, according to the basis principles of the world and not according to Christ." (Col 2:4, 8)
- We must BEWARE of what we hear and see in the world. (1 John 5:19)
- We must test EVERYTHING. (Acts 17:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:21; 1 John 4:1)
- We must pray daily that we do not fall prey to the Devil. (Matthew 6:13; 26:41)
- We must flee evil! (Genesis 39:7-12)
- Either we are children of God (disciples) or we are children of the devil (1 John 3:10; John 8:44)
- With great privilege comes great responsibility - and God holds all His creatures responsible.