

The Devil's Devices

1. Devil: slanderer

2. Satan: adversary

1 Pt.5:8, Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

2 Co.2:11, ...lest satan should take advantage of us for we are not ignorant of his devices.

I. We Are Not Ignorant
Of His Dangers, 2 Co.11:1-3

1. I'm sure you will bear with my foolishness
[you do bear with others]
2. I promised to keep you a virgin for Christ,
(11:2); but I fear (12:20) – afraid, Gal.4:11

The snake bit Eve; now he seeks you
(2 Co.11:4)

I. We Are Not Ignorant Of His Dangers, 2 Co.11:1-3

II. We Are Now Informed
Of His Devices, Gen.3

Satan's Devices – Gn.3

A. His talent, 3:1 –

Crafty, shrewd (more cunning than all)

Luther wore his Calvinism as armor to protect him from sins

B. His target, 3:1 –

'He said to the woman...' – mere words?

1 Tim.2:13, For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14, And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression

Satan's Devices – Gn.3

- c. **His tricks**, Gn.3:1-5. Fellow creature, harmless
- 'Innocent' things can be deadly. 3:1; Mt.4:3f.
 - Great knowledge. 1 – Mt.10:16
 - Direct and confident. 1 – logical, persuasive
 - Spiritually minded. 1 – knows what God said
 - Personal, caring. 1 – opens door for opinion
 - Misdirection. 1 – changes focus; 2-3
 - Contradiction of Word. 4 – cannot trust God
 - Denies love of God. 5 – He slanders God...
 - Satan never apologizes for the fall

Satan's Devices – Gn.3

D. Choices have consequences ... therefore:

- Don't believe everything you hear. Words can deceive. Josh.24:15; Jn.8:44
- Smooth speech and pleasant promises expelled Adam and Eve . Ro.16:17-20
- Beware satan's agents –
 - Their character (false servants)
 - Their cause (smooth talk, flattery)
 - Their cheating (we can win, v.20)

Satan's Devices – Gn.3

D. Choices have consequences ...

- Some are never content – even in paradise
- Some have to lose blessings to value them
- Satan uses same deceptive devices on us

a. Distorts commandment. Ro.3:8

b. Denies consequences. Ro.11:22

*Calvin: 'although in the first place this cannot happen to the elect, they have need of such warning, in order to subdue the pride of the flesh' ? ? ? [2 Pt.3:16]

I. We Are Not Ignorant Of His Dangers, 2 Co.11:1-3

II. We Are Now Informed Of His Devices, Gen.3

III. We Are Not Immune
To His Deception, 2 Co.11:13-15

2 Co.11

³ But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ

- Church = a second Eve
- Espoused to Christ [the second Adam]
- She must discern deception of tempter's voice...
- To secure privileges she should enjoy
 - Ja.1:8; 4:8, double-minded, divided loyalty...
 - Simplicity – single-hearted devotion is opposite of double-minded.

“But I have never seen satan”

Satan uses human agents – 2 Co.11

¹³ For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works

1 Tim.3:6

'not a novice lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil'

- Pride puffs up like dense fog

Fall into condemnation of devil?

Is this condemnation . . .

- Reserved for the devil? Mt.25:41
- Caused by the devil? 2 Tim.2:26
- For mimicking the devil?

1 Tim.3:7

‘must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil’

- Reproach: disgrace
- Snare: trap (laid by satan) – same as satan’s sin of pride

Satan watches Christians to take them down and to bring reproach on the church