

SATAN'S STRATEGY

1. He blinds the minds of the unbelievers.
 - A. 2 Corinthians 4:3, 4, "But if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 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."
 - B. Luke 18:12, "I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess."
 - C. 2 Thessalonians 2:9, 10, "Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the Truth, that they might be saved."
2. He deceives nations.
 - A. Revelation 12:9, "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the Earth, and his angels were cast out with him."
 - B. Revelation 20:3, 8, "And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season." "And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the Earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea."
3. Instills the fear of death in believers.
 - A. Hebrews 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."
 - B. Psalm 23:4, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me."
4. Encourages the believer to worry.
 - A. 1 Peter 5:7, 8, "Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walking about, seeking whom he may devour."
5. Seeks to frustrate God's will:
 - A. Operational - James 4:7, 8, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."
 - B. Geographical - 1 Thessalonians 2:18, "Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us."
6. Accuses believers to hinder the work of the Lord on the Earth.
 - A. Job 1:6-11, "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them. And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence cometh thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the Earth, and from walking up and down upon in it. And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered My servant Job, that there is none like him in the Earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not Thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. But put forth Thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse Thee to Thy face."

- B. 2 Corinthians 2:11, "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices." Revelation 12:9, 10, "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the Earth, and his angels were cast out with him. 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."
 - C. Zechariah 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."
 - 1. But the believers' defense attorney is the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - a. 1 John 2:1, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."
7. He obscures the focus of the believer.
- A. Hebrews 12:2, "Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."
 - B. Colossians 3:1, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."
 - C. He gets the believer to look to self, to things.
 - 1. 1 Corinthians 1:10, 11, "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no division among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."
 - D. Also to people.
 - 1. Jeremiah 17:5, "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord."
8. He gets the believer to be occupied with temporal solutions to man's problems and therefore neglect Divine solutions.
9. He invites the believer to ignore the Word of God and accept false doctrine.
- A. 1 Timothy 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 demons."
 - B. 1 Corinthians 10:19, 20, "What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing? But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with demons."
 - C. 2 Corinthians 11:3, 11:13-15, "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." "For such are false apostle, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 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."
 - D. 1 Chronicles 21:1, "And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel."