

"to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me" (Acts 26:18)

DEFINING
SATAN

Satan In Job

- not only cynical but an insulting accuser

ACCUSES GOD → "So Satan answered the LORD and said, 'Does Job fear God for nothing? Have **You** not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and **he** will surely curse You to Your face!'" (Job. 1:9-11).

ACCUSES JOB →

Satan Inciting the LORD

- "Then the LORD said to Satan, 'Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause'" (Job 2:3)

Job 2:3 & James 1:13 Contradiction?

- "Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for **God cannot be tempted by evil**, nor does He Himself tempt anyone" (Jas. 1:13)

- ". . . although **you incited Me** against him, to destroy him without cause" (Job 2:3)

- bible doesn't contradict itself
 - our interpretations often contradict

Rightly Divide the Word of TRUTH

- Meaning:
 - evil cannot tempt God to act in evil (James); key = "by evil"
 - he does not seduce us to do evil
 - Satan moved God to allow Job's integrity to be challenge, though the challenge was very severe (Job)
 - God allowed Job to be tempted to prove integrity; not to seduce to sin
 - God did not sin against Job by allowing Job's integrity to be tested!

Rightly Divide the Word of TRUTH

- While God is not tempted by evil:
- **man can tempt God by testing His promises:**
 - "So he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the contention of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'"

(Ex. 17:7; cf. 15:22-27; 16:1ff; Ps. 78:41-60; Acts 15:10)

Satan to Jesus

granted bodily control

Jerusalem

highest point

temp. of over-confidence

"⁵ Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to Him, 'If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷ Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'" (Matthew 4:5-7)

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Psalm 91:11, 12

"the devil's head is full of scripture. . .his heart is empty of it" (J. W. McGarvey)

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Satan – The Adversary

- How the Hebrew "Satan" is used:
 - "Then God's anger was aroused because he went, and the Angel of the LORD took His stand in the way as an adversary against him. And he was riding on his donkey, and his two servants were with him" (Num. 22:22; cf. 2 Sam. 19:22)

SATAN WANTS US TO FAIL!

- **Against** – *Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel* (2 Chron. 21:1)
- **Opposing** – *Zechariah*, "Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him" (Zech. 3:1)
- **Tempter** – *Matthew*, "Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, 'If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread'" (Matt. 4:3)

SATAN WANTS US TO FAIL!

- **Takes away the word of God** – *Mark*, "And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts" (Mk. 4:15)
- **Bound in affliction** – *Luke*, "So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" (Lk. 13:16)

SATAN WANTS US TO FAIL!

- **Accuser of brethren** – *John*, "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world . . . for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death" (Rev. 12:9-11).

SATAN WANTS US TO FAIL!

- **Seeking to take advantage of us** – *Paul*, "lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices" (2 Cor. 2:11).
- **Adversary** – *Peter*, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8).

SATAN WANTS US TO FAIL!

- **Disputing** – *Jude*, "Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, 'The Lord rebuke you!'" (Jd v. 9).
- **Power of death** – *the Hebrew writer*, "Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil" (Heb. 2:14).

Five Final Facts

1. Satan is real
2. Satan is evil
3. Satan is our enemy
4. Satan has a domain
5. Satan can be resisted

We Can Succeed!

- "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you" (Jas. 4:7)
 - submit and resist

What Spirit Bears Witness With Mine?

- *"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. . . . The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God"* (Rom. 8:14, 16)
- *"In which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience"* (Eph. 2:2)



Whose Spirit Abides in Me?

- *"In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother"* (1 Jn. 3:10).