

# The Devil You Say?

One of the problems with today's society is that many no longer believe in God. Then, they deny the existence of the devil as well. As Christians, and potential Christians, we must know that both exist, and that the devil is hard at work to make us think that there is no God.

There are many passages in Scripture about the devil. A look at them may help us to believe that he is very real, and that God has indeed had victory over him in the Lord Jesus Christ. He just doesn't know it yet, so he keeps on plugging. He is a danger to us all.

First, he is like a prowling lion. Lions can hurt us. Lions can take us away from our loved ones. Know that the devil is always prowling around, trying to do evil.

So resist him. And believe God. As the scripture says below, find strength from the fact that many others across the world are going through the same temptations and trials.

“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.”~ 1 Peter 5:8-9

Second, come together for worship on a regular basis and pray. The farther away we get from church, the more we think others don't care or that worldly activities are better. Draw strength from God to find self-control and strength for every situation.

“Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.”~ 1 Corinthians 7:5

Third, do not do sinful things. The devil keeps on trying to convince us that they are good, that others don't matter, and that faith is a dream. Jesus came to put an end to Satan's work. So let him put it to an end in you.

“The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.” 1 John 3:8

Fourth, don’t be deceived by the cunning and deceptiveness of the devil. Name his many names. He can make good things look bad and bad things look good. Do not repeat the mistake of Adam and Eve, and fall prey to lies and half-truths.

“But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent’s cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.” ~ 2 Corinthians 11:3

Five, choose the right Father. The devil would like to be your constant companion and friend. He is a liar and a murderer. Do not fall for his lies, and do not let him lead you into that world of darkness. Any time a lie is told, Satan gets a foothold. And it can get worse from there.

“You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.” John 8:44

We close with a look at the Devil’s Beatitudes, or Deviltitudes. It is my hope and prayer that you see his work for what it is, and find truth and love in the arms of Christ. Here they are. They are anonymous, but whoever wrote them did a great job.

## DEVILITITUDES

Know how our enemy works.

If the devil were to write his Beatitudes, they would probably go something like this:

Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend an hour once a week with their fellow Christians in Church- they are my best workers.

Blessed are those Christians who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked-- I can use them.

Blessed are the touchy, with a bit of luck they may stop going to church-- they are my missionaries.

Blessed are those who are very religious but get on everyone's nerves-- they are mine forever.

Blessed are the troublemakers-- they shall be called my children.

Blessed are those who have no time to pray-- they are easy prey for me.

Blessed are the gossipers, for they are my secret agents.

Blessed are those critical of church leadership, for they shall inherit a place with me in my fate.

Blessed are the complainers-- I'm all ears for them.

Blessed are you when you read this and think it is about other people and not yourself-- I've got you.