

WARZONE: SATAN'S 16 DEVICES

AGAINST GOD'S TRUTH BELIEVERS

... *Lest Satan get an advantage of us ; for we are not ignorant of his devices.* (2 Corinthians 2:11)

One of the most sobering facts about life is that all humans have a supernatural enemy whose aim is to use pain and pleasure to make us blind, stupid, and miserable — forever. The Bible calls him “the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world . . . the accuser” (Revelation 12:9–10), “the ruler of this world” (John 12:31), and “the god of this world” (2 Corinthians 4:4).

He is our “adversary roaming about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8). Yet, in the most appalling and unwitting bondage, the whole world willingly “follows the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the children of disobedience” (Ephesians 2:2). At his most successful, his subjects march obliviously to destruction, and he take as many with them as they can. The “good warfare” (1 Timothy 1:18) and with the daily resistance of this enemy (1 Peter 5:9; James 4:7), and the daily refusal to give him an opportunity (Ephesians 4:27), and our daily stand against his wiles/schemes (Ephesians 6:11) we shall triumph.

Unwitting Servant of Our Sanctification

God intends that part of our preparation to live in Zion when he returns is a life of warfare against hell. He calls it a “good warfare” (1 Timothy 1:18) and a “good fight” (1 Timothy 6:12). It is good, not because we might be killed (which we might! — Revelation 2:10), but because in these fire-fights we refine the gold of our faith (1 Peter 1:7), in life and death.

God is the great General in this warfare. He has given us the **WALKIE-TALKIE OF PRAYER (THE LINE IS ALWAYS OPEN..NO BUSY SIGNALS)** to call for help: “Take . . . the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, *praying* at all times” (Ephesians 6:17–18).

He sees behind enemy lines, and knows exactly the strategies that will be used against us. He has written them down in a wartime manual call the Book of the LORD the KJV Holy Bible “so that we would not be outwitted by Satan.” The reason we will not be outwitted is that “we are not ignorant of his devices” (2 Corinthians 2:11).

SATAN'S 16 MAIN DEVICES

1. Satan lies, and is the father of lies.(Lies)

“When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies” (John 8:44). The first time Satan appears in the Bible in Genesis 3, the first words on his lips was to question the truth (“Did God say, You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?”). And the second words on his lips were a subtle falsehood (“You will not die”). John says that Satan “has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him” (John 8:44). We are dealing with the essence of falsehood and deception.

2. He blinds the minds of unbelievers.(Blinder)

“The god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ” (2 Corinthians 4:4). So he not only speaks what is false. He hides what is true. He keeps us from seeing the treasure of the gospel. He lets us see watered down facts, even proofs, but not precious, clear truths that enlighten giving us God’s wisdom knowledge and understanding.

3. He masquerades in costumes of Christianity (Cloaked with light and righteousness.)

In 2 Corinthians 11:13–15, Paul says that some people are posing as apostles who are not. He explains like this: “For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.¹⁴ And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.¹⁵ 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.” In other words, Satan has servants who profess a Christ to have a church, yet from inside they teach what Paul calls “doctrines of devils/demons” (1 Timothy 4:1). Jesus says they will be wolves in sheep’s clothing (Matthew 7:15). Acts 20:30 says they will not spare the flock, but will draw people away to destruction. Without God’s gift of discernment (Philippians 1:9), our love will be suckered into stupidity and iniquity having never really known Jesus.

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.²² Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?²³ And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (Mat 7:21-23)

THEY PROFESS THAT THEY KNOW GOD; but in works they deny him, **BEING ABOMINABLE, AND DISOBEDIENT,** and unto every good work reprobate. (Tit 1:16)

4. Satan does signs and wonders. (Power)

(Acts 26:18). In 2 Thessalonians 2:9, the last days are described like this: “Even him, whose coming is after **THE WORKING OF SATAN WITH ALL POWER AND SIGNS AND LYING WONDERS,**¹⁰ And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.¹¹ And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:¹² That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness

In fact, some people do say that Satan can do miracles. Also called lying wonders, his fake is going to be good enough to look real to almost everybody.

“God intends that part of our preparation for Zion is a life of warfare against the forces of devil.” One reason I doubt that Satan can only fake his miracles is that in Matthew 24:24 Jesus describes the last days like this: “False Christs and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders, so as to deceive, if possible, even the elect.” There is no hint that these “signs and wonders” will be tricks. Let your confidence be grounded in something far deeper than any supposed inability of Satan to do signs and wonders. Even real signs and wonders in the service of anti-Christian assertions, prove nothing, even when they are done “in the name of Jesus.” “Lord, Lord, did we not do many mighty works in your name?” To which Jesus will reply, “I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of iniquity” (Matthew 7:22–23). The problem was not that the signs and wonders weren’t real, but that they were in the service of promoting lawlessness and they remained their sins having not the word of God.

5. Satan tempts/ Seduces people to sin. (Seduction)

This is what he did unsuccessfully to *Jesus* in the wilderness — he wanted him to abandon the path of suffering and obedience (Matthew 4:1–11). This is what he did successfully to *Judas* in the last hours of Jesus’s life (Luke 22:3–6). And in 2 Corinthians 11:3, Paul warns against this for *all* the believers: “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.” (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 devils;

6. Satan plucks the word of God out of people’s hearts and chokes faith. (Doubt Casting)

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, **YEA, HATH GOD SAID, YE SHALL NOT EAT OF EVERY TREE OF THE GARDEN?** (Genesis 3:1) Jesus told the parable of the four soils in Mark 4:1–9. In it, the seed of the word of God is sown, and some falls on the path and birds (Air Assault) quickly take it away. He explains in verse 15, “Satan immediately comes and takes away the word which was sown in them.” Satan snatches the word because he hates faith which the word produces (Romans 10:17).

Paul expresses his concern for the faith of the Thessalonians like this: “I sent to learn about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you and our labor would be in vain” (1 Thessalonians 3:5). Paul knew that Satan’s design is to choke off the faith of people who have heard the word of God.

7. Satan binds some with sickness and disease (Infirmities).

Jesus healed a woman once who was bent over and could not straighten herself. When some criticized him for doing that on the Sabbath, he said, “Ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, *whom Satan bound for eighteen years*, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?” (Luke 13:16). Jesus saw that Satan had bound this woman with a disease.

“God is sovereign over Satan. The devil has no free hand in this world. He is on a leash, and can do only what God permits.”

But don't make the mistake of saying every sickness is the work of the devil. To be sure, even when a "thorn in the flesh" is God's design for our sanctification, it also may be the "messenger of Satan" (2 Corinthians 12:7). But there are other instances in which the disease is solely attributed to God's design without reference to Satan: "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him" (John 9:3). Jesus feels no need to bring Satan in as the culprit in his own merciful designs.

8. Satan is a murderer both physically and Spirituality.(Mental Murder)

Jesus said to those who were planning to kill him, "You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. **HE WAS A MURDERER FROM THE BEGINNING**, and has nothing to do with the truth" (John 8:44). John says, "Do not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother" (1 John 3:12). Jesus told the blameless church at Smyrna, "The devil is about to throw some of you into prison. . . . Be faithful *unto death*, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10). And as troops of robbers wait for a man, **SO THE COMPANY OF PRIESTS MURDER IN THE WAY BY CONSENT**: for they commit lewdness. (Hos 6:9) **The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in THE CONGREGATION OF THE DEAD.** (Prb 21:16) To put it in a word, Satan is blood-thirsty. Christ came into the world that we might have life and have it abundantly (John 10:10). Satan comes that he might destroy life wherever he can and in the end make it eternally miserable.

9. Satan fights against/ hinders the plans of missionaries.

Paul tells of how his missionary plans were frustrated in 1 Thessalonians 2:17-18: "We endeavored the more eagerly, and with great desire, to see you face to face; because we wanted to come to you . . . but Satan hindered us." Satan hates evangelism and discipleship, and he will throw every obstacle he can in the way of missionaries and people with a zeal for evangelism.

10. Satan accuses true believers before God.(NEGATIVE COMMUNICATION SHOTS)

Revelation 12:10 says, "I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, 'Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for *the accuser of our brothers* has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.'" Satan's defeat is sure. But his accusations haven't ceased. It is the same with us as it was with Job. Satan says to God about us, *They don't really love you; they love your benefits.* "Stretch out your hand and touch all that [they have], and [they] will curse you to your face" (Job 1:11). *Their faith isn't real.* Satan accuses us before God, as he did Job. But it is a glorious thing that followers of Jesus have an advocate who "always lives to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25).i

11. Satan dispatches Infiltrators (Stealth Operations)

How art thou fallen from heaven, **O LUCIFER**, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!¹³ For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: **I WILL SIT ALSO UPON THE MOUNT OF THE CONGREGATION**, in the sides of the north.¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I WILL BE LIKE THE MOST HIGH.**¹⁵ Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.¹⁶ They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, **IS THIS THE MAN THAT MADE THE EARTH TO TREMBLE**, that did shake kingdoms;(Isa 14:12-16)

Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:²⁵ But while men slept, **HIS ENEMY CAME AND SOWED TARES AMONG THE WHEAT**, and went his way.²⁶ But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.²⁷ So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? **FROM WHENCE THEN HATH IT TARES?**²⁸ He said unto them, **AN ENEMY HATH DONE THIS.** The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? (Mat 13:24-28)

For there are certain men **CREPT IN UNAWARES**, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, **UNGODLY MEN**, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ (Jude 1:4)

And that because of **FALSE BRETHERN UNAWARES BROUGHT IN, WHO CAME IN PRIVILY TO SPY OUT OUR LIBERTY** which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage: Galatians 2:4

12. Satan has children who Pervert the RIGHT WAYS OF THE LORD.(Perversion)

And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all **righteousness**, wilt thou not cease **TO PERVERT THE RIGHT WAYS OF THE LORD?** He perverts the word of God with craftiness

But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, **NOT WALKING IN CRAFTINESS, NOR HANDLING THE WORD OF GOD DECEITFULLY**; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. **2 Corinthians 4:2**

And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;¹⁶ As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and **UNSTABLE WREST, AS THEY DO ALSO THE OTHER SCRIPTURES, UNTO THEIR OWN DESTRUCTION.**¹⁷ Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness. 2 Peter 3:15-17

EVERY DAY THEY WREST MY WORDS: all their thoughts are against me for evil. **Psalms 56:5**

13. Satan Gives Power

And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.⁶ And the devil said unto him, **ALL THIS POWER WILL I GIVE THEE**, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.⁷ **IF THOU THEREFORE WILT WORSHIP ME, ALL SHALL BE THINE.** (Acts 26:18) To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from **THE POWER OF SATAN** unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. (Luke 4:5-7) When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, **SHEW A MIRACLE FOR YOU:** then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and cast it before Pharaoh, and it shall become a serpent.¹⁰ And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent.¹¹ **THEN PHARAOH ALSO CALLED THE WISE MEN AND THE SORCERERS: NOW THE MAGICIANS OF EGYPT, THEY ALSO DID IN LIKE MANNER WITH THEIR ENCHANTMENTS.** (Exodus 7:9-11) But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city **USED SORCERY, AND BEWITCHED THE PEOPLE** of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one.¹⁰ To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, **THIS MAN IS THE GREAT POWER OF GOD.**¹¹ And to him they had regard, because that of long time **HE HAD BEWITCHED THEM WITH SORCERIES.**(Acts 8:9-11)

14. Satan Oppresses

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were **OPPRESSED OF THE DEVIL**; for God was with him. (Acts 10:38)

15. Satan Possesses/ Inhabits people (Possessions)

When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were **POSSESSED WITH DEVILS:** and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: (Mat 8:16)

As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man **POSSESSED WITH A DEVIL.**(Mat 9:32)

Then was brought unto him one **POSSESSED WITH A DEVIL, BLIND, AND DUMB:** and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.(Mat 12:22)

16. Satan is a Sifter: THE DIVISION AGAINST THE ONE FAITH, ONE HOPE, ONE BAPTISM

Readers of the New Testament see these passages
Ephesians 4:3-6

Endeavouring to **keep the unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace.⁴ There is **one** body, and **one** Spirit, even as ye are called in **one** hope of your calling;⁵ **One** Lord, **one** faith, **one** baptism,⁶ **One** God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and **in you all**.

2 Corinthians 4:13

We having **the same spirit of faith**, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

Romans 16:17

Now I beseech you, brethren, **mark them which cause divisions** and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; **and avoid them**.

Luke 22:31

And the Lord said, *Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:*

The definition of SIFTING a verb (used with object)

1. **TO SEPARATE** and retain the coarse parts of (flour, ashes, etc.) with a sieve.
2. **TO SCATTER** or sprinkle through or by means of a sieve: *to sift sugar onto cake*.
3. to separate by or as if by a sieve.

Woe be unto the **pastors** that destroy and **scatter** the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD.
Jeremiah 23:1

Acts chapter 20: "[28] Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. [29] For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. [30] Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. [31] Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. [32] And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified."

Notice how Satan "sifts" members of the Body of Christ by having them overlook "*the word of God's grace*" (verse 32). Thus they follow these men, available in many forms—that is, 38,000 denominations! Splinter group after splinter group develops, until the distinction is no longer "Christian versus non-Christian," but increasingly "this denomination versus *that* denomination." So many precious Christian souls are entangled in such confusion and division!

Proverbs 6:16-19

THESE SIX THINGS DOTHTHE LORD HATE: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:¹⁷ A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,¹⁸ An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,¹⁹ A false witness that speaketh lies, **AND HE THAT SOWETH DISCORD AMONG BRETHREN.**

AFTER FURTHER READING IN THE HOLY BIBLE YOU WILL FIND THAT IT PROMOTES AND EMPHASIS ON UNITY

Psalms 133:1

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is **FOR BRETHREN TO DWELL TOGETHER IN UNITY!**

Romans 12:16

BE OF THE SAME MIND ONE TOWARD ANOTHER. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

1 Corinthians 1:10

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 DIVISIONS AMONG YOU**; but that ye be perfectly joined together in **THE SAME MIND AND IN THE SAME JUDGMENT.**

Philippians 2:2

Fulfil ye my joy, **THAT YE BE LIKEMINDED, HAVING THE SAME LOVE, BEING OF ONE ACCORD, OF ONE MIND.**

Philippians 3:16

Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, **LET US WALK BY THE SAME RULE, LET US MIND THE SAME THING.**

1 Corinthians 12:25

That there should be **NO SCHISM IN THE BODY**; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

Romans 12:4-5

For as we have many members in **ONE BODY**, and all **members** have not the same office: So we, being many, **ARE ONE BODY IN CHRIST**, and **EVERY ONE MEMBERS ONE OF ANOTHER.**

YET TODAY THERE ARE 5 TYPES OF CHRISTIANS

1. **CAMP DOCTRINE CHRISTIAN: ONLY WHAT COMES FROM OUR TEACHER, AT OUR CLASS, ONLY CHURCH IS WORTHY OF BELIEVING (CULT MEMBERS)**
2. **SATANIZED CHRISTIAN: THE SUNDAY KEEPING, EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP, CHRISTMAS OBSERVANTS (PAGANS)**
3. **FRINGE WEARING CHRISTIAN: FASHION BY FAITH BELIEVER (HOLY GHOST RESISTORS)**
4. **COMPROMISE CHRISTIAN: NOBODY IS WRONG, LOVE IS OUR THEME ALL ARE WELCOME (WITHOUT JUDGMENT)**
5. **BODY OF CHRIST CHRISTIAN: THOSE WHO SPEAK WHAT'S IN THE BIBLE ARE THE TRUTH TEACHERS.**

BUT SATAN AND HIS ANGELS KNOW THEY WILL NOT WIN, HE IS DEFEATED ALREADY,
And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither **TO TORMENT US BEFORE THE TIME?** (Mat 8:29)

WE'RE THE ONES THAT MUST BELIEVE IT, TO RECEIVE IT

Those are some of Satan's **Strategies** against us but our victory in this warfare is to hold fast to Christ who has already dealt the decisive blow.

- **1 John 3:8:** "For this purpose **the Son of God** was manifested, that he might destroy **the works of the devil.**"
- **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.**"
- **Colossians 2:15:** "And **HAVING SPOILED PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS**, he made a shew of them openly, **TRIUMPHING OVER THEM IN IT.**" In other words, the decisive blow was struck at Calvary.
- **Psalms 92:4** For thou, **LORD**, hast made me glad through thy **work: I WILL TRIUMPH IN THE WORKS OF THY HANDS.**
- **Revelation 20:10** says one day the warfare will be over: "The devil . . . [will be] thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone . . . and will be tormented day and night forever and ever." (See **Matthew 8:29; 25:41**)

RESIST THE ENEMY, THE DEVIL

James says, "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you!" (**James 4:7**).

HOW DO WE DO THAT? Here is how they did it according to **Revelation 12:11:** "They have **OVERCAME HIM BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB and BY THE WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONY**, for they loved not their lives even unto death." They embraced the triumph of Christ by his blood. They spoke that truth in faith. They did not fear death. And they triumphed.

The New Testament highlights prayer as the pervasive accompaniment of every battle. "Take . . . the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, *praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication*" (**Ephesians 6:17-18**).

“Do not be outwitted by Satan. God sees behind enemy lines and tells us all we need to know to not be ignorant of Satan’s designs.”

As the close of this dispensation draws near, and Satan rages an ever increasingly savage war because he knows the time of his Binding for a 1000 years draws nigh, Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, **THAT IN THE LATTER TIMES SOME SHALL DEPART FROM THE FAITH**, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;(1Tim 4:1) This know also, that **IN THE LAST DAYS PERILOUS TIMES SHALL COME.**² For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,³ Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, **DESPISERS OF THOSE THAT ARE GOOD,**⁴ Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;⁵ Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.⁶ For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,⁷ **EVER LEARNING, AND NEVER ABLE TO COME TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH.**⁸ Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, **SO DO THESE ALSO RESIST THE TRUTH: MEN OF CORRUPT MINDS, REPROBATE CONCERNING THE FAITH. (2TIM 3:1-8)**

Jesus calls us to wartime prayer: “Watch at all times, *praying* that you may have strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:36). Similarly, Peter makes an urgent call to end-time prayer: “But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.” (1 Peter 4:7).

Even Jesus fought against the devil on our behalf with the weapon of prayer. He said to Peter in Luke 22:31–32, “And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: **BUT I HAVE PRAYED FOR THEE**, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, **STRENGTHEN THY BRETHREN.**” So Jesus illustrates for us the opposition of a specific satanic threat with prayer. And, of course, Jesus instructed us to make prayer a daily weapon for protection in general: “Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil” (Matthew 6:13). That is, deliver us from the successful temptation of the evil one. Do you confront the designs of the devil with the focused and determined power of prayer?

THERE IS NO NEUTRAL ZONE IN THE WARZONE

The question is not whether you want to be in this war. **EVERYONE IS IN IT.** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;(Rom 3:23) Either we are deceived, Captive OF THE 15 DEVICES MENTIONED ABOVE and defeated by the devil and thus following him and serving Sin, like cattle to the slaughter, “.. the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others (Ephesians 2:2-3). And you are an enemy of God “whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the **enemy of God**”(James 4:4) **OR WE ARE RESISTING THE DEVIL** — “resist him, firm in your faith!” (1 Peter 5:9).

There is no neutral zone. You either triumph “by the blood of the Lamb and the word of your testimony,” or you live by Sin and in bondage to the power of Satan. (To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from **THE POWER OF SATAN** unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.) Acts 26:18

They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, **IS THIS THE MAN** that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; **THAT OPENED NOT THE HOUSE OF HIS PRISONERS?** (Isa 14:16-17)

And that they may recover themselves out of **THE SNARE OF THE DEVIL**, who are taken **CAPTIVE BY HIM AT HIS WILL.**(**2 TIM 2:26**)

Therefore, “Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus” (2 Timothy 2:3), and “wage the good warfare” (1 Timothy 1:18). Pray without ceasing!

The Lord Jesus is no less a warrior today than in the days of old. So I urge you again: Come to him as willing soldiers of the Prince of Peace and learn to say, “He trains my hands for war” ([Psalm 144:1](#)).

Satan’s Leash — and Impending Doom

God is sovereign over Satan. The devil does not have a free hand in this world. He is on a leash, so that he can do no more than God permits. (Job 1:12) And the LORD said unto Satan, **BEHOLD, ALL THAT HE HATH IS IN THY POWER; ONLY UPON HIMSELF PUT NOT FORTH THINE HAND.** So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

In effect, he must get permission to go beyond the Hedges God places around his servants — as in the case of Simon Peter, where Jesus discloses, “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has asked to have you, that he might sift you like wheat” ([Luke 22:31](#)). And the case of Job: “The Lord said to Satan, “Behold, Job is in your hand; only spare his life” ([Job 2:6](#)). So evidently God sees the ongoing role of Satan as essential for proving us in this world, for the world to come since, if God willed, Satan would be thrown into the lake of fire *now*, instead of in the 8th Day. “The devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and . . . will be tormented day and night forever and ever” ([Revelation 20:10](#)). His complete defeat is coming and sure. But not yet.