

## ***Evidence of the Demonic in Biblical Christianity***

### **1. The First Announcement of Redemption: Genesis 3:15**

Walter Kaiser in Toward...Theology, pp 36,37, states we have here a "Divinely implanted hostility...an enmity between the serpent and the woman (and) between your (serpent's) seed and her seed." He goes on to show that "seed" is a "collective" concept so that we have each representing a group -- those who belonged to the seed of the woman (the Lord Jesus) and those who belonged to the seed of the serpent (Satan). He said "History was not a contest between mere mortals, it was simultaneously a supernatural battle for dominion, and Satan had his own succession of tyrants corresponding to God's Davidic line as well as his climactic person, the tyrant of all tyrants." p.240

In this important passage we have an explanation of the pattern history will always reflect. It will be a contest between God and His own (represented by the seed of the woman) and Satan and his own (represented by his seed). Notice how clearly this is further explained in Ephesians 2:1,2; 6:12; II Thessalonians 2:3-14; and Revelation 12.

We also have presented in this passage a description of what the redeeming work of Jesus Christ (the seed of the women) is all about. He was born into the world and died on the Cross in an act of substitution whereby Satan (the serpent and his seed) were defeated. Notice how this is summarized in I John 3:8.

### **2. The Instructive Disclosure of a Larger Context to a Believer's Suffering: Job.**

From the book of Job we are led to understand that the battlefield between God and Satan is found in the life of Christians. While we cannot say that the dimension found in Job is true for all our trials -- we must say all our trials reflect in some way the "contest" spoken of by Kaiser. In considering these passages we must always keep in mind that Satan, while allowed by God some freedom to exercise his power, is but a fallen angel. In reality he is being used by God, with all his demons, to carry out a divine purpose.

### **3. The Description of Destructive Power behind Double-Minded Rulers: King Saul.**

In I Samuel 15 we have a reminder of the serious nature of disobedience (Vs 22,23). King Saul, undoubtedly a believer, chose more and more to do his own will instead of the will of God. The shocking result is presented in 16:13,14; 18:10; 19:9; II Samuel 28; and I Chronicles 10:13,14.

When Satan sees an opportunity to infiltrate a person, a family, a church, or a nation -- deception is always used to hide his work. This was undoubtedly true for King Saul. How different the end of his life was from its beginning (see I Samuel 10:6-11; 11:6; 15:17). Who, in their right mind, would have made such foolish and self-destructive choices -- when the issues were so obvious? How horrified he must have been after death when he realized what he had done -- and how wonderfully he could have lived and served!

4. The Description of the Evil Power behind Wicked Kings: Isaiah 14:4-23; Ezekiel 28:11-19.

When a person is serious about rebelling against God there is always help for them -- Satanic help. The Devil will use anyone he can to strike a blow against the Lord Jesus, the believer, and the truth.

5. The Reminder - the Kingdom on Earth and the War in Heaven are Related: Daniel 10.

There are spiritual facets of the Church and our daily life that go beyond the observable. Through grace the believer is a part of a plan to glorify God.

6. The Prophetic Assurance of Redemptive Triumph: Zechariah 3:1-10.

Joshua the High Priest is assured that in the One he represents, the Branch (V8), there will be deliverance from both the effects of sin and the power of Satan.

7. The Cultural Pattern of the World is Influenced by Satan: Ephesians 2:1,2; I John 3:19.

8. The Temptation, Commission and Ministry of Jesus Christ was to defeat Satan: Luke 4.

9. The Disciples were Commissioned and given Authority over the Enemy: Luke 9:1.

10. The Seventy were also Commissioned to Deliver People from Satan: Luke 10:1-24.

11. The Kingdom of God is a Victorious Invasion into Enemy Territory: Luke 11:20.

12. The Church is the Spearhead of Christ's Invasion into Enemy Territory: Matt 16:18-21.

13. In His Redemptive Work the Lord Jesus Defeated Satan: Heb 2:14,15; I John 3:8.

14. In Salvation the Believer is Delivered from the Kingdom of Satan: Col 1:13; 2:10-15.

15. The Believer's Struggles are Related to the Enemy's Oppression: Eph 6:12.

16. The Believer is Described as a Warrior, given Weapons, and told to Fight: Eph 6:10-18.

17. The Believer is Instructed in How to Fight: Eph 6:10-18; I Peter 5:8,9; Rev 12:11.

18. The Believer is Warned of His Vulnerability to the Enemy and Given Illustrations.

- a. Individuals

Eve — Genesis 3:1-6; II Corinthians 11:3

King Saul — I Samuel 16:14; 18:10; 19:9

Job — Job 1,2

Peter — Matthew 16:22,23; Luke 22:31

Paul — II Corinthians 12:7; I Thessalonians 2:18

- b. Church members — Acts 5:1-11; I Corinthians 5:11-13; II Cor. 2:6-11; II Tim 2:25,26
- c. Pastors — I Timothy 3:16,17
- d. Churches — II Corinthians 2:6-11; Revelation 2:10,13,24
- e. Children — Mark 7:24-30; 9:14-29

Conclusion: While the works of Satan has only a small place in the plan of God and the life of the believer, we may not disobey God and ignore these truths. We are commanded to be vigilant and to resist him. We are all under his attack.

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