

Satan and his Anti-faith Movement in the Church

God gets blamed for the bad things that happen, while Satan gets a pass, because people would just rather put the blame on God. They believe they're sick and suffering for the glory of God, and as soon as someone else gets critically ill, they think it's just that person's time to go. They're not resisting Satan. They're yielding to him, not even realizing it. You have to keep a strong confession of faith on a daily basis.

You cannot show Satan any weakness. He will always prevail over weak Christians. **Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.** 1 Peter 5:8, 9

Satan will take everything we have if we won't fight, while he persuades us that it was God's will that we lost whatever we lost. He'll take your health, he'll take your strength, he'll take your joy and peace, and he'll take your victory. He will not quit, and he will never be satisfied or content. His whole objective is to eliminate you from the face of the earth.

Satan, our adversary and enemy, is proclaiming this *God's will propaganda* all over the world and has even infiltrated the church with anti-faith teachings. For instance, you can preach from 1 John 4:4, *Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world*, and teach believers that the Spirit of God dwelling in them is greater, and more powerful than anything in this world. Then the people who are anti-faith and anti-victory will try to catch you at your words and say that you're telling people you're God, or take statements that you made out of context.

These kinds of people did the same thing to Jesus when He ministered. They sow discord among the brethren, hinder baby Christians from growing, and they'll spend their whole life being a heretic hunter. Sadly, many dear believers become their prey.

Anything that is not victory is not from God. God's Word doesn't teach us to cope with sickness and disease. We're not to cope with anything that's from Satan! Satan comes against anything that has to do with living a victorious life in Christ Jesus. People buy these lies, because they

have the tendency to believe the negative preachers instead of the positive ones. They're just like the children of Israel when they believed 10 spies instead of Joshua and Caleb in Numbers 13 and 14.

People don't want to look bad, so they'd rather blame God for not healing them than seek God and find out why they're not receiving their healing. They'd rather have you believe they're some **special** kind of Christian, suffering some **special** kind of sickness for some **special** kind of reason. **Well, God has specials, that's for sure!** And His **special** is healing: **And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them** (Acts 19:11,12 20). God wrought special healing, so if you want to be special, get healed!! Notice that when the evil spirits left, the sickness left.

If you want sickness and disease to leave, you deal with the devil – strongly. Jesus said in Luke 13:16, **And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?**

Sick people need to know that Jesus is the healer, just like sinners need to know that Jesus is the Savior. It's an abomination against God to think He's the one who afflicts people and makes them sick (Job 37:23). We're under the New Covenant and Jesus bore our chastisement, along with the curse, griefs and sorrows. God doesn't want you grieving over anything. People who do that are in self pity. They're looking for sympathy, not a solution.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:4,5

Darkness and Light

When I was 18 years old, I was lying in a hospital bed, dying of a lung disease. I preferred to have the room dark, like a dungeon, but the doctor who did my lung surgery, Dr. Lawson, came in the room, ranting and raving and yelling and said, *"This boy's dying. I want light in this room!"*

Then, he took the cord on the Venetian blind and pulled so hard that the blinds went all the way to the ceiling, and I thought they were going to fall off. He said, *“I want light in this room and not darkness!”* He knew something about death and depression that too few Christians realize.

You need to get out of the darkness and get into the light – physically and spiritually. There’s a direct link between depression, sickness, disease, and darkness and sin. The spirit of death can linger around your home, because you welcomed it and made it comfortable, and all the medication in the world will not run that spirit off. The entrance of God’s Word brings light (Psalm 119:130). There is a law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus, and there’s a law of sin and death (Romans 8:2).

You want to operate in the law of life. It starts out with your tongue, having your mouth filled with God’s Word, you singing and praising God, having a strong prayer life, and a voice of victory, with you eliminating complaining, whining and griping.

Everybody can lay hands on you and cast this depression out of you, or off of you, and you may get some temporary relief, but if you don’t start talking with victory and joy, that spirit of oppression, depression, grief, sorrow, anger, sickness and disease, will overtake you.

You Have to Make the Devil Leave

I had a lady come into my Bible study that was the most depressed person I ever saw outside of an institution. She was using the depression to get attention. One night after the service, I told her that. She said she’d been using the Word and it wasn’t working. I said, *“That’s a lie, the Word always works. You’re ruining your children’s lives. What child wants to live around depression?”* I started to give her a list of things to do. I said, *“You’re never going to know when I call. When you answer the phone, I want you to say, ‘Praise the Lord!’ with enthusiasm every time you answer.”*

Depression will spread faster than any plague if you don’t eliminate it. This woman had taken all kinds of medications and had been to all kinds of doctors, but she’d made up her mind she was going to live with the depression and make everybody else’s life miserable.

If you don't deal with people like that, they'll wreck your church! If you just show Satan a little bit of disappointment, he'll accommodate you with a whole lot of it! Well, thank God, she started praising the Lord, and she started gaining victory and joy. It seemed as though she became a new lady. I often thought her husband was happy I dealt with the issue. He seemed never to have the nerve to deal with it.

The only power Satan has is deception. He cannot do anything to anyone unless they permit him to. Normally, most people do not purposely or intentionally yield to the devil. But they do so ignorantly. Ask your Christian friends some time to tell you what they know about the devil. Ask them what he can and cannot do, and then ask them if they ever talk to the devil. Most of your friends are clueless about Satan's devices while he's doing everything he can to destroy their lives.

I look forward to sharing more with you tomorrow. Remember that God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).

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