



The True colours of satan

There are many preconceived ideas about satan. It is rarely that I hear of Christians having a good knowledge of who satan is. You who read this study may have at least heard 2 or 3 different versions of who satan is; e.g. How does he act? What can he do? What is impossible for him to do, or not to do etc.?

When teaching the Bible I have often told people, "I don't write anything that I have not understood, integrated and put into practice in my own life. I do not claim to know everything about satan but everything we're going to see together has been integrated into my own life, and has worked very well for several years. This study will assist you to avoid falling into any trap that your enemy the devil will put in front of you. If you understand and integrate these truths into your own personal life, then you can eliminate a high percentage of situations where you used to see the enemy having a victory over you. The Bible says that he is clever, and it is by knowing him, knowing his abilities, what he can do, and what he cannot do, that we will be victorious over him and his demons.

It has been several years since my interest in satan and his army has been aroused. I was studying the fact of being victorious myself over sin. Then I told myself that if I wanted to overcome my enemy, I should know him better. Of course, it was not a question of me immersing myself completely in the world of the devil and his demons, or going out and documenting the different actions of satanists today. I understood that all this would bring nothing positive. There was nothing edifying in that. Most everything that I could learn

would have been pure lies from satan. He is the father of lies. He cannot do otherwise.

So I stayed in what the bible teaches in this regard, which is always the safest policy in matter of truth.

I hope to impart the correct Bible information to you, so that you can put away any false idea which would allow the enemy to take advantage of you, due to lack of knowledge or incorrect information.

When I became a Christian I was 21 years old. I lived in a remoted suburb from the city of Brisbane in Australia. At that time we lived in a house in the Australian bush. A big truck used to come once a week to fill up our huge drinking water tank and a generator was used to provide the electricity we needed in the house. I particularly remember one evening when I was alone at home and it was time to go to bed, I had to stop the generator. Each of the lights in the house shut down gradually until it became totally dark. I was a young convert to Christianity. Nobody had ever taught me about satan and his demons and I must say that I was still very impressionable when it came to evil spiritual powers. I was there, huddled down in my bed, and that evening it took me a long time to fall asleep. My imagination was generating numerous thoughts such as: "There is a bad spirit in the house. He will come to terrorize you. What shall I do if there are demonic manifestations in the house?"... I stop my list here. I well understand today that this was only intimidation. Yes, I was born again, but I didn't know my adversary. And some evil spirits that evening were very happy because of my ignorance.

It is very important that you understand this study, because satan will not mind using your misunderstanding to make you believe all kinds of lies about what he could do to you.

Matthew 13: 19 (amp) While anyone is hearing the Word of the kingdom and does not grasp and comprehend it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the roadside.

The first person to pay the price for a misunderstanding is Eve. I want to clarify that I am certainly not misogynistic. On the contrary, I am grateful for all my

sisters in Christ who work for spreading the real good news, may it be through teaching, through prophecy, etc.

So, let's go and have a look at the book of Genesis...

God is generating all the creation. Animals and all the vegetation are in place. Then He planted a garden in Eden where human beings were to live in peace. And God made the following recommendation to Adam...

Genesis 2: 15-17 *And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not **eat** of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*

Note that at this time Eve has not yet been created. We will come back in a moment to Eve.

To bring a better understanding, I will describe things in context. God has created a man, animals including fish, as well as all vegetation, on Earth and in the sea. A guard was placed by God in the garden. This guardian was to provide protection, assistance, etc. The Bible says that he was a protector Cherub. A Cherub is symbolized by 4 beings. This does not mean that he is an animal, but simply that he has some of the features of these 4 creatures. The Cherub has the appearance of a man (created by God), as well as a bull (for strength), a lion (for his reign, his respect) and an eagle (for his wide and sharp vision). These adjectives are not exhaustive, but are here to help us to better understand the role of a Cherub. This cherub was called Lucifer. At this time he was not the accuser, the adversary, the enemy. It was after his disobedience that he became satan, the devil.

Ezekiel 28: 13 *Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.*

Lucifer got along very well with God and with Adam. He was the keeper of the garden. He mixed with God and Adam very regularly.

Then God decided to give a help to the man: He created Eve.

Genesis 2: 18 *And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him...*

Genesis 2: 21-22 *And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.*

It is difficult to say how much time elapsed between the time Eve was created and the time where the serpent came to seduce her. Enough time I think, in order to have built a kind of trust between Eve and the serpent.

And it is now that we will see that a good understanding of the word of God is essential, so that the doubt will not modify the truth.

Remember what God said to Adam about the tree.

Genesis 2: 17 *But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*

But Eve had not yet been created when God gave this recommendation to Adam.

Genesis 3: 1 *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?*

So when the serpent came to Eve asking: "Did God actually say that you shouldn't eat from that tree?" He had not lied. He had simply sown a doubt in Eve. But the problem was that Eve was not present when God gave the word to Adam not to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Eve had received this recommendation from Adam. And even if it can be assumed that God repeated these words to Eve, it is a certain fact, that she poorly understood it. She extrapolated it.

Look at the response of Eve to the serpent.

Genesis 3: 2-3 *And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the*

*garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die.*

God never said that they should not *touch* the fruit. But Eve was convinced of this. So what happened?

The serpent put the doubt and the temptation in Eve. Remember she thought that if she touched or ate the fruit, she would die. Yet, she yielded to that temptation, and begun touching the fruit to take it. She thought that at the time her hand would touch the fruit she would die. Then she extended her hand, touched and picked the fruit. And then...

Nothing.

No, nothing happened.

Then Eve said to herself: "But I have touched the fruit and I'm not dead. Nothing has changed!

And she continued: "but then, the serpent is right! I can eat the fruit I will not die!"

And Eve ate the fruit. Everybody knows the rest of the story.

We have just seen the terrible consequences of a lack of knowledge of the word of God. And especially how satan will try to use our lack of knowledge against us.

If the Bible calls him, among other names, the evil one or the devil, and emphasizes on his craftiness and cunning, it is not for nothing. Therefore, the first thing to implement in my life so that I can discover the true colours of satan, is a good knowledge of the word of God. Not to mix the old and the new Covenant, not to add anything to what the Bible does not say.

This is a thought that is strictly personal to me because the Bible does not specify it. I've wondered for years why satan became satan? What caused him to become jealous and proud?

If we go back to the situation at the beginning, Adam and Eve were all day in the Garden of Eden, and Lucifer with them. God came in the evening to spend time with Adam and Eve, surely to express His divine love for them. It is clear

that the human being was and still is God's creature and as such Adam and Eve received an immeasurable love from God. They were created in the image of God. They were much more important and higher up in the hierarchy of heaven than this cherub who became the devil. The love, the interest that God had for his creature (and still has today) is beyond our comprehension.

There came a time where Lucifer could no longer bear this situation. Jealousy had grown and Lucifer became satan, the devil, the tempter.

Psalms 8:5 (amp) *Yet You have made him but a little lower than God [or heavenly beings], and You have crowned him with glory and honor.*

Human beings are not much lower than God but are superior to a cherub such as Lucifer was. Today he has lost the battle and is close to eventually being destroyed. We could say that human beings are the cause of the fall of satan. He wanted to control this creature of God and not love him as God does. I'd say the hatred that satan has for humans, including humans who serve him today, is as strong as the love that God has for us. This is something that has been crucial in the understanding of my adversary, knowing how much he hates me. If you did not know it before, you do now. The devil hates you as much as God loves you. It does not mean that I have to hate him too, but I simply have to be very careful.

Now, let's move on a little more in our discovery of the true colours of satan. We will study a passage that is very often misunderstood these days. In any case I often hear the same questions about this subject.

Let's go to the book of Job.

I won't detail here the reasons why satan comes before God as if everything was fine and just as if everything was ok. You can read all the details about this subject in my study of the Character of God.

Job 1: 6-7 *Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them. And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.*

It is quite clear that satan had already fallen at this time. It is also clear that satan had maintained his access to Heaven. Here the "Sons of God" are angels of God. Many Christians today attribute power to satan that he no longer has. Most of you who read this study, know or are familiar with the story of Job, at least in outline. The story of Job comes up just a few hundred years after the flood of Noah. Many people think that this story is under the Law given to Moses, because we read that Job offered sacrifices for his children. But at that time God had not called Abraham, even though Job and Abraham may have been on earth around the same time. A little later in the dialogue between God and satan we see that indeed satan still had strong powers. God had not removed anything from him at that time. God simply set limits. Do not think that God was pleased to allow the suffering of Job. God had no choice. Read my study on the Character of God to know these circumstances.

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.*

Satan therefore had the power to affect a person's thinking. This is what he did when he coerced men to murder the servants of Job.

Job 1: 14-15 *And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them: And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.*

He also had power over the elements. Satan probably knocked the lightning onto the cattle and the servants of Job. Lightning in itself is not miraculous, but it is the fact that he made it fall at that moment and on these animals and these people to try to make Job abandon God. Satan really had control and power over these circumstances. Each time, he spared a servant of Job so that this servant could report the sad news to Job. It is in details like this that we see that the scourges that have fallen on the life of Job were not natural, but well ordered by the spiritual power of satan.

Job 1:

V16 *...and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.*

V17...and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

V19...and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

A little later, seeing that Job kept his faith and his confidence intact towards God, satan again returned to the attack. This time it was the physical body that satan was going to target. We see that again God set limits, forbidding satan to take the life of Job. This implies that satan could very well send a deadly disease to the body of Job. It is in verse 6 of Chapter 2 that God forbids satan to take the life of Job.

Often today the story of Job is present in the minds of Christians, but not in a good way. There are those who think that God sends disease, others who think that God "allows" suffering and is hiding himself in some way behind satan. There is no truth in any of this. We see in the story of Job some false statements made about God and His character. A majority of Christians believe that nothing has changed for satan since the new Covenant. I was one of these, believing the devil still had powers that no longer exist. This was until I understood what had really happened after Jesus' death on the cross.

Now we'll see what actually happened to satan and his demons since Jesus came to Earth incarnated as a man.

Jesus is the Son of God, a perfect spiritual being. But when starting his ministry, He was in a human body, conducted by a human spirit and soul. We know that Jesus never sinned in His body or in His soul. This does not mean that He was not tempted to do so. But He never succumbed to sin, in acts, words, or in thoughts. Do you think that satan was bothered to push Jesus into sin? Not only did he try, but it was his personal goal during the ministry of Jesus on Earth to make Jesus sin so that He would not qualify to redeem us through the cross.

Let's see what satan did...

First of all, I would like to specify that satan cannot locate himself in several places at the same time. He is not omnipresent as God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit. He is a fallen angel, and as such he doesn't have the ability to be in several places at once. When God asked him, in Job, "Where were you?" satan replied: "To look around on the Earth and walk here and there." When satan walked on

Earth, he had to go from one place to another. He observed the human beings during his walks. Nowhere do we see satan acting in two places at the same time. Neither he nor any of his demons.

This study would be incomplete if we did not broach the subject of the persecuted, those who have lost their lives for the real good news. Because here too, it is a subject that can lead to confusion and thinking that the devil has powers that he does not actually have.

2 Timothy 3:12 *Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*

That's the fact of the matter, all Christians who live with all their hearts, according to the teaching of Jesus, will suffer persecution, and some even will die.

Does that mean that God sends persecution?

Not at all.

God does not tempt anyone and persecutes no one.

Then what is happening?

Why do those who want to live godly get persecuted?

This may not seem to make sense. Why does God allow this? And then why did God not destroy the devil at the cross? This would have saved us many problems. Yes of course God could very well have totally destroyed the devil, once and for all leaving him not even the possibility of suggesting thoughts to us. But God is perfect, and He respects everything that He has established. He has given human beings free will, the choice to decide between good and evil. Otherwise this time of grace would not really be a grace of freedom. God had to leave us the choice. In His unconditional love for us, He gave us everything we need to overcome satan and rob him of opportunity. God did everything to give every human being the maximum opportunity to go through the new birth and receive every chance to succeed in life.

In the following verse in the book of Revelation, Jesus speaks to the Church of Smyrna where He told them clearly that some of them will go to jail because Satan will throw them there.

Revelation 2: 10 *Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.*

And Jesus even said to be faithful unto death. That is, it is possible that some of them would go through death. This is what happened to Antipas our brother from the Church of Pergamum (**Rev 2: 13**). Even today in some places in the world, Christian brothers and sisters are going through death because of the persecution of the cross. We will try to understand why. Some might say with a certain fear, "But how can I be sure that one day I will not lose my life because of the good news?" On one hand Satan has been defeated, and on the other hand I read that there are brothers and sisters in Christ who go through death because of their faith. Yes of course it is a legitimate question. But there is a very important point: the fact you ask yourself this question shows that you will not lose your life for the Gospel in the current state of things.

Why?

Christian martyrs who have lost their life in persecution for the Gospel, did it with acceptance. I mean here that they had not fled from physical death which was before them. They did not deny God, they said: "Yes, rather death than to deny the cross of Christ". So until you are really established in a steadfast manner on this point, nothing similar will happen to you.

Does this mean that we must flee this kind of thinking?

No not at all.

Do not search it, or flee from it. The Holy Spirit is working in each one of us, and we must allow Him to transform us, quite simply. There have never been sad martyrs. They have never existed and will never exist. So let this thought of our brothers and sisters who have lost their lives not trouble you at all. But it would not have been fair on my part to make a study on the true colours of Satan by hiding the case of martyred Christians, simply because the subject is

not popular, or a little difficult to tackle. God knows what He is doing. I'll explain it to you now.

Remember when satan presented himself in the assembly before God among the angels, at the time of Job. I want to now show by this passage that everything is well organized in the Heaven. Nothing is done "in the rush" or "roughly". And as we said above, God submits Himself to His own Word because He is perfect and cannot lie. satan will finally be cast for eternity in the Lake of fire.

Revelation 20:10 *And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*

This is the ultimate goal of God since the fall of Adam and Eve, to give back to human beings what they have lost during the fall. All that has been done, organized, created by God was done in order that mankind could regain the position of Adam before the fall. And for this purpose, satan, the devil, must be put out of action forever. As there were assemblies in Heaven in Job's time, there are some for every major event in the universe. The difference is that today neither satan, nor his demons can attend anymore. And in the same way there will be an assembly to judge the devil and his demons at the end of the time.

To charge and condemn there needs to be an accusation, some specific facts. Consider the position of every born again Christian who has lived their life without going through a violent death because of the Gospel. All these Christians have had an overwhelming victory over satan and his demons. We cannot say in any case that satan was victorious over them, because he had lost all his powers at the cross.

Now consider the case of the martyrs who are cited in:

Revelation 6:9 *And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:*

This verse here talks about Christians who died murdered by other humans who followed satanic thoughts of murder. The Bible tells us that they are under the altar.

But what altar?

Let us remember that most of the time in this vision of the book of Revelation, John saw some poetic images. That is images that convey a precise thought, a perfect idea. We could compare it to some parables. The first point is that as long as times are not completed in full, there is no Christian in heaven. The Bible tells us all those who have died are in Hades. There are two distinct places in Hades, one peaceful and the other is a place of torment. Reread the passage of Lazarus and the rich man in **Luke 16: 20-31**.

All those who have died since the creation are therefore in Hades and not in Heaven or in hell. It will be only at the Day of Judgment that each person will take a place in hell or paradise.

Revelation. 6: 10 *And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?*

The fact that they can remember perfectly what has happened to them shows that they are still in Hades and have not yet put on the heavenly body they will have upon their entry into Paradise. They ask revenge for their lives that have been taken away by satan.

This altar which John speaks about it is the cross. These Christians were sacrificed and died for the benefit of the cross. They are now under the cross, under the benefit of the cross. Which means that their future is already drawn, they belong to Jesus for they were sacrificed because of this altar which is the cross. Their fate is already established in advance, because they receive a white dress and a white pebble, which symbolize their holiness in Jesus and their new identity in heaven for eternity.

Rev. 6: 11 *And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.*

And then they are told to wait. But wait until when? Until sufficient number of their companions (who have received the same death) will be complete.

But why this?

Because satan will be judged at the end of the time. These martyrs that John is referring to are eyewitnesses of the actions of satan on Earth in all the times since the beginning of the grace. We see in this passage of Revelation 6 that these Christians have a kind of special status. They call for vengeance, which means that their death has not been for nothing, without any reason. Then obviously they will not go through a judgment of any kind because they receive this white dress and this white pebble. Their deaths will take all its meaning when satan will be accused and thrown into the lake of fire, because that day they will be eyewitnesses who will validate the charge against satan, that is to be unleashed and wanting to destroy the human race, and as such he will be sentenced for eternity. This is in my opinion the reason of the martyrs in the history of grace. God does nothing for nothing, he loves us with a more immense love that we can ever imagine.

Do you think that God tolerated unnecessarily the martyrs?

Of course not!

The martyrs are needed, there is no way to do otherwise, because if that was the case God would have done it. satan and his demons are today on Earth and only on Earth. There is thus only human beings, people on Earth who could be witnesses unequivocally stating the activities of satan on Earth against the human race. All this does not mean that satan is not really under our feet, he is under our feet.

A teacher that I know often says: "when you want to say something to satan, write it under your shoes". And he is quite right. We are victorious over the devil because he has been defeated.

The bible tells us that one-third of the angels chose to follow satan in his fall according to:

Revelation 12:4 *And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.*

One day I said to myself: “but why John gives us this precision in his vision? Nobody knows the exact number of the angels in the sky, nor no one knows the exact number of demons. And if John did not specify it, it is surely because Jesus did not tell it to him in his vision, because this was not the most important. What is important to know, is that there are twice as many angels than demons that are evolving in the spiritual world. Our protectors and messengers are double numbers compared to our enemies.

Here is the last precision that I like to state to help in our perception of satan and his demons is, it seems to me to be the most important one.

It personally took me a long time to understand it. Initially, I had understood that satan and his demons were my enemies, but I thought that they were acting a little like us humans beings: when two countries are at war, soldiers are fighting on the front against one and other, but even if the fight is to the death it happens that one or the other can act in “respect” towards his adversary. As such there are often prisoners; they do not always kill, sometimes people act with “human heart”. Well, I thought that in the combat that oppose us with satan and his demons, this could be a bit like this sometimes: some demons could say “For this time I leave him, I don’t want to go to the end”. Then by studying a little more closely, I realized that it was a huge mistake. This kind of thinking is even satanic, influenced by satan, because it can make us releasing our guard and losing battles. As I said above, I would repeat to you that satan or any of his demons has a huge hatred against human beings, and especially to those who are born again.

Often when I speak with brothers and sisters, I realize that many have strong feelings on what may be a satanic thought. The ultimate goal of satan is to make us believe that a satanic thought is in fact not one. So the fact of thinking that a satanic idea must be something huge, abject and terrorizing is in fact already a satanic thought. One of the major strategies is to make believe his adversary that his actions are insignificant and harmless. We have often,

wrongly, the impression that a satanic thought must be very obvious. Don't think this. Some things that appear to be frivolous are actually satanic. A demon does not sleep, does not eat, he has all his time to do his work. He does not do it by vocation, it is just his hatred; the 100% of evil that is in him prompts him to act. And it is by making us believe it is a frivolous thing that satan often reaches his purpose.

The demons hate even among themselves.

Why?

Simply because they are unable to do good, they are incapable of generating a positive thought. In the camp of our enemy, everything is about lying, there is no well-structured organization, respected hierarchy. Demonic spirits are self-serving, falsehood-oriented, ready to all trickery to meet their hatred towards the creature of God that we are.

It is important to know his adversary to be able to beat him. Nobody who is sensible will engage any fight without finding out about his adversary. It is true for a competition, as also for a war. That is why it is important to know the true colours of satan. Too often Christians don't pay attention to it, or are afraid. All this as a result of bad decisions in our lives, bad priorities, that leads to unnecessary sufferings, or to situations without possible way back that we will regret. The difficulty is that satan uses everything that is within our reach to push us toward evil. And often many people mistaken in their judgement.

Let's take the case of the internet. This is a great tool, but only if it is used in a balanced manner. We can find just about everything, and also other things that are really satanic. Does that mean that the Internet is satanic?

Not at all!

It is the use that we actually do that is bad. Through it, people fall into sin, and others find grace in Jesus Christ, all this because of the Internet. If everything was all white or all black, there would be no need to ask so many questions. It is at that moment that the intervention of your team with the Holy Spirit is essential. It is Him who will guide you when you do not know if this is a good thing to engage in any particular situation.

John 14:26 *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, **he shall teach you all things**, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*

The Holy Spirit teaches us not only the Scriptures, He teaches us everything we need in our daily lives.

All, yes all!

Nothing is excluded. I understand that we cannot know everything, experience everything, and God knows it. This is why He leaves His Spirit to team up with us. (For more details on this subject see my study about The Holy Spirit).

Today, I find a lot of situations within Christian families, which are unnecessary. All this because people are often ignorant about the true colours of satan. Things are getting little by little into the manners and habits of our society. One day a Christian lady told me how his 13-year-old son was in love with a schoolmate. She told me: "But they only kissed nothing more!" Or even many people who were not born again used to say to my son or my daughter when they were 16 or 17 years old: "Hey, what happens? At your age, you do not have yet a boyfriend (or a girlfriend) which you are in love with, and with whom you could get out?!".

These are some instances of satanic thoughts that do not look like it at first. One might ask "why"? What we must understand is that satan or one of his demons, most of the time attacks me with a thought which seems insignificant. It will be a thought that appears harmless. That is why when teens are having a sentimental relationship, it may seem innocent. But if we try to see a little further in the long term, we can end up with young girls pregnant without being married, or for instance boys who have an image of love completely perverted and who distort their future romantic relationship when they will be adults.

I believe that the following adventure happened to each of our three children when they were in primary school, between 8 and 9 years old. One day the teacher asked: "Who has a cell phone in the classroom?" I seem to remember that our eldest son was the only one not to raise his hand, our daughter was with 2 or 3 other classmates to not raise her hand, and for our last son, they

were two, he and another to not possess a mobile phone. Is the mobile phone a bad invention?

Not at all.

But satan has taken over a good part of it. Today any child who has his phone, even if he does not look up for evil, can receive anything without requesting: such as images, videos of extreme violence or pornography, satanic messages (which will perhaps not look like it). By receiving regularly so much junks on his mobile, they will end up falling in all kinds of imbalances. Knowing all this, we have preferred not to give a mobile phone to our children until they are in age to understand who is satan and how he can act hiding himself from us without us knowing it. Not because we didn't trust our children, but simply because a child, often, has not acquired yet the knowledge of traps.

Do we judge those who have chosen to give a mobile to their children from the age of 8 or 9?

Not at all.

But if this is your case, know that you are taking a risk. The goal is to know if the risk worth it, compare to the service this phone will bring. satan has only one purpose: to kill us avoiding at all costs that we get born again in Jesus. This can seem exaggerated to you, but it is the strict truth. Some Christians think that if they do not pay attention to the devil, he will leave them alone. Remember that every demonic being hates you at the highest point.

Satan knows that the time will come when he will be imprisoned and destroyed. He does not know when this will occur, but he knows it, and he wants to take along the maximum of human beings with him.

Let's take the example of a demonic man that Jesus set free. To put back in its context, this situation is still occurring under the law, and at that time satan still has all his powers. It is not known how this man had been possessed of demons, but we know that there were several that remained in him.

Mark 5: 5-7 *And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I*

to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.

This text clearly shows that even if someone is demon possessed, he still has the choice to turn to Jesus in order to be set free. Do you think that the demons that were in this man wanted him to run to Jesus?

Surely not.

But yet this man has found the strength to do so, although he had not the strength to speak, but he threw himself at the feet of Jesus. It is at that moment that we will see that satan and his demons know that their end is predestined. Look at the last verse when this man cried out with a loud voice "*What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not*". Other versions (**Good News**) say: "*For God's sake, I beg you, don't punish me!*". These demons thought that the time where they would be imprisoned had come. We know that this event will happen after the return of Jesus, but at this time, they really thought that their time had come. This is why the "spokesman" for these demons begs Jesus not to put them in prison, not to throw them into the abyss according to:

Revelation 20:3 *And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more,...*

satan knows few things planned by God, but he does not know the fixed times.

Mark 5: 10 *And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country.*

It is in this verse that we see that the "spokesman" of these demons had feared that Jesus would send them into the abyss. But Jesus knew that the time had not yet come. This is why He allowed them to go into a herd of swine. This shows firstly that these demons were actually several (as told in verse 9 of Mark 5), but also that animals can be possessed by demons. Because the swine did not have a spirit, it was easy for these demons to push them to suicide.

As Christians we know that Jesus defeated the devil at the cross. But do you well understand what is the position of satan today?

On one hand we can read in many of the Epistles that satan is defeated, and on the other hand we can also read that it still happens sometimes that satan harm Christians.

So what is happening in this case?

It is human beings that give power to satan, because himself alone is nothing.

There is a situation in the Bible that is often very misunderstood and generates attitudes and perceptions completely outside of reality. A majority of Christians keep thinking that satan can still stand before God and can claim that welfare or health be withdrawn from some of them. These same Christians believe that without the help of anyone, satan could send them a disease, make them lose everything materially speaking, or can even take away their life. All this, is totally wrong today. It was quite possible before the time of grace, but since the cross, it is finished: satan has been completely stripped of all its strength. The lie is the only thing left to him. His only possible action against a born again person is to suggest deceitful thoughts to him. In fact, it is the non-Christian human beings, and unfortunately Christians also, that give power to satan when they believe all these lies. Because these deceitful thoughts generate actions in humans' beings, words, and different thoughts that go against the biblical thought.

We will see a little more in details below, the condition of satan today.

There are also those who think that satan still has huge powers, because they take the passage where Jesus announces to Peter that satan has claimed them for suffering.

Luke 22:31 *And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:*

To sift the wheat, the ears have to be threshed so that grains can be released from the straw. It is an operation where the wheat grains are tossed in all directions. If we have to compare the wheat grains as human beings facing a demonic attack, a person would be shaken in all directions, sometimes upside down, other times hurt by shocks, not knowing anymore where up or down were, or the left nor right.

Satan wanted to destabilize the Apostles, by sowing a total disorder so they would no longer know the truth, to the point of wondering if Jesus was really the Messiah? Did He really give a teaching that came from God? This was the purpose of Satan when he claimed the Apostles to sift them. Notice that Jesus did not say: "Peter do not worry, I'll make the devil leave you alone".

Not at all, Jesus said nothing similar. Look at the following verse.

Luke 22: 32 *But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.*

Jesus prayed that their faith does not weaken, He prayed so they can keep in a steadfast manner all His teachings that He gave them for these 3 years and a half. He prayed so that the Apostles would keep in their spirit that Jesus is the Christ and that He is the long-awaited Messiah.

So in this context, many Christians today still believe that Satan can come to claim people to God in order to pass them through the sift. But since the cross, where Jesus defeated the devil and all dominions, such a situation cannot be repeated. It is over.

Why?

A major event happened during the Ministry of Jesus. Major event, but which goes almost unnoticed for many Christians. This event is located in:

Luke 10:18 *And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.*

To put things back in context, Jesus sent the 72 disciples to announce the good news in the cities and in the countryside. The disciples returned, all still amazed of what they have experienced those past days. The Ministry of Jesus progressed more and more, the good news was spread, and the authority of Jesus disconcerted the actions of Satan and his demons on Earth. It is at this point that Satan and all his army were being cast out of the heaven, they became undesirable in the Kingdom of God. From this moment it became impossible for Satan to come in Assembly before God and the angels. Today it is over, finished for Satan and his army, the gates of Heaven have been closed

to them. They are reduced to wander on Earth and in the spiritual world of the air.

Revelation 12: 7-10 *And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.*

Now that we have well understood this fact, let's move forward a little bit.

For a person who is born again, he has received the benefit of the death of Jesus on the cross.

Then, what satan can do to me today?

How far can he go against me?

Yet does he have any way to harm me evil as he did to Job?

Our brother Paul enlightens us on this fact when he wrote to the Colossians.

Colossians 2: 14-15 *Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*

That has happened at that time?

The principalities and powers are of course those who are demonic. They have been stripped of their power. Other translations also say: «Disarmed (AMP), removed their power (NLV)». It is therefore very clear that satan and his demons have no power anymore. Finished sending an illness! Finished to command to the elements! They are all disarmed, stripped, no more weapon, there's no more possible combat as in the Old Covenant. satan and his demons

are exactly like a prince and his army who had been dismissed and disarmed, they no longer have any way to fight anymore. Satan has lost everything, he has nothing left. All those who are born again have nothing to fear from him or from his demons.

When a Roman leader had won a war, he would make a spectacle of the leader of the opposing army in front of the entire city. For this there was a procedure.

The defeated leader being prisoner, had his thumbs been cut off so that he could no longer have the strength to hold a sword in his hand. He could no longer attack anyone. Then he had his two big toes cut off as well, so that he could no longer run anymore. And it was in this state of humiliation, with no way to attack that whosoever, that the winner leader tied the defeated one to the rear of a Roman chariot. And then, the Roman leader dragged all around the city this defeated chief, without any force, without any weapon, so that everyone could see that he was inoffensive, that there was nothing more to fear from him. This is what happened to Satan and his demons in the spiritual world of the air. Jesus has disarmed him, then made him harmless, and has dragged him before all.

If you read this study and you are born again, now you know the position of Satan compared to yours. All simply because the Spirit of Jesus Christ dwells in you. Satan is not yet dead, the only subtlety that remains in him is the lie. But you must have well understood what his situation today is. He cannot do anything against you unless you accept it.

Whenever you hear someone who will say "the devil *forced me* to do such and such thing"; or "a demon *sent* a tornado in a particular location", or "a demon *has entered in this Christian* and made him doing all kinds of evil things": all this is absolutely impossible today!

All this is well finished, Satan and his demons have no more possible action except from lying, and they cannot stand before God, or claim anything anymore.

A born again Christian cannot, under any circumstances, be possessed by a demon; which is not the case for a person who is not born again. It is therefore impossible for a demon to enter and make his home in a person who is born

again. But we are not immune from thoughts that it may suggest to us. Nevertheless, it's up to us to believe them or reject them. The problem is that often we are not conscious that we give an audience to a thought that is satanic.

Then what can we do?

In this case there is only one solution:

A good knowledge of what the Bible says, with a solid team with the Holy Spirit who will teach it to me. (For more details on this subject see my study on the Holy Spirit).

Now let's look at how to live with success against satan and his demons. The only thing that a demon can do against me is suggesting to me a satanic thought, or suggest it to someone else who will apply it against me. But this has nothing to do with the fact of being demon possessed? satan and his demon still have their free movement on Earth, but all disarmed and without any power. The only thing that they have left is to lie to humans beings, or to use other human beings by influencing them to accomplish their dirty work.

Ephesians 4:27 (amp) *Leave no [such] room or foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him].*

When Paul said this to the Christians of Ephesus, he wanted to show them that if their thoughts were like locked on the true Gospel that Jesus taught, the devil would have no access, no entry, no passage that he could take to reach their soul to place a thought.

Ephesians 6:11 *Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

Here again, there are matters of cunning and trickery only, everything is deception with satan, everything is a lie.

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;*

Always keep this thought: "he can do nothing against me, because I have the power of the word of Christ who lives in me."

Then you can tell me, how to apply it in an everyday life?

This word must above all be a natural and established fact in me. Something that cannot be knocked down regardless of the situation. It is exactly as if I were around a campfire with friends. If one of them tells me to touch the flames with my hand, I would not do it of course. Because long ago, when I was a small kid I understood and integrated that the fire burns. I don't have to test it again, that is an acquired truth that will never change because it is a truth. Likewise it is the same thing regarding the position of satan against me: I know that I have the authority in me that will assert its defeat at the cross. And nothing, absolutely nothing, no circumstances will make me change my mind on this point.

1 Pierre 5:8 *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*

This verse raises many wrong ideas on satan. A majority of Christians claims assertions that this verse is not saying. These same people have this image of a lion that will jump on them and devour them without being able to defend themselves. And because of that they adopt a passive attitude.

Let's take the context of this verse. This letter that Peter wrote was not intended at a particular church but to all the Christians of Asia. It is above all a message of encouragement and a warning against the enemy that Peter was giving here. His message addressed the young people, the adults, the officials, etc... but mainly to Christians who were going through persecution. He often explained to remain humble, to not get discouraged in suffering, according to what Paul wrote to the Romans about the persecution that would face those who announced the Gospel. In this verse of 1 Peter, "Be sober" can be translated by "Be vigilant, keep your eyes open". Yes, there's the devil who seeks constantly to make you sin, he seeks to lead you in a position where you will be estranged from God. But satan, or any of his demons, will never take you on to a place or a situation where you will not let him manipulate you. Which means that whatever happens, you stay the master of own decision whatever it is. Some translations say: "looking for someone who let himself be

eaten". In verse 9 which follows it's said: "*Resist to him with a firm faith,..*". We see here that Peter is totally optimistic about victory even facing the roaring lion. It is important to take all the teaching of a subject when we study it, it is also important to look at:

James 4:7 *Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

When I taught this verse to my family during one of our family meetings, we first defined what meant "Submit yourselves to God". Often there is a tendency today to understand the word "submit" as something against our will and burdensome. This is not at all what means James here. To submit, is also to voluntarily put myself under an authority, and in that case, it is under the authority of God that I place myself voluntarily, so as to be able to exercise as well the authority of His word by Jesus. We could also translate: *Submit yourselves to God*", by, "*Place yourself voluntarily under the authority of God, to see this authority be exercised in you*". Then, this position that I have in Jesus Christ will allow me to resist the devil. And because of this voluntary submission on my behalf, satan will flee, not just going away, but flee, scamper off before me.

Let's look at the case of Ananias and Saphira. Peter said to Ananias:

Acts 5:3 *But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?*

satan thus came to suggest a thought to Ananias. The problem was that Ananias had thought that this thought was good, and therefore he put it into practice. In no case Ananias was forced to do anything. The fact of lying about the price of his field had been only HIS decision and only HIS decision, nobody had forced nor obliged him, satan doesn't have this power. Otherwise do you think that satan would deprive himself to force people to believe him?

Of course not.

If he does not do it, it is because he does not have this power.

Peter also allowed himself to be tempted and thought that the thought that satan had suggested him was good. Of course, Peter did not realize that this thought came from the devil himself, he thought it was a good thing.

Matthew 16:23 *But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.*

Peter just wanted to protect Jesus by saying "No one shall harm you". But this thought was not appropriate at all, because Peter was trying to prevent the future crucifixion of Jesus that would set free the entire world. So, it was a satanic thought, inspired by satan.

One may wonder why, when God rob satan and his demons, did He leave them the possibility to fill us with misleading thoughts? Why did Jesus leave this possibility to satan and his demons to suggest thoughts of lies? He could just remove all to him, even the word and the lie.

We were one evening, during one of our family meetings gathered to study the bible, and I asked this question to our children: "Why do you think that God has left the opportunity to satan to lie to humans beings? "

And then our daughter immediately responded: "Simply so that human beings may have the choice, otherwise it wouldn't be fair".

She was quite right. Of course that God could have eliminated the devil and his demons at the cross, but He did not do it because things would not have been fair. And God is just. Because He is perfect He is also right in all His actions; and because love does not oblige anyone, in this time of grace, God leaves the choice for human beings to access to the new birth or not. God had to allow a possible action to satan, and He left him the lesser powers: the lies. It is up to us to give power or not, to these words coming from the evil one, because this words alone are worthless. What you need to do is just not to give credit to what he is telling us, but to enforce our victory at the cross by His powerful word which is in us. (For more details on this topic, (see my study: "I take and use my authority").

If you are born-again, "you are condemned to succeed" when you face the temptations of the devil. God has made sure that we just have to enforce our

victory. That's why it was necessary that satan could keep just one action: the power to lie. And in this case, and in this case only, no one will be able to contest the grace of Jesus that he would have denied during his life on Earth. All human beings who unfortunately will not go through the new birth, will go in hell for eternity, they will all go for the same sin. Few people have understood this. Jesus has already forgiven all our sins, past, present, and future at the cross, more than 2000 years ago. (For more details on this subject see my study on the new birth). It is something acquired for all human beings without any exception. All human beings have their sins forgiven, but each of them must validate it by accepting this gift of God by repenting and taking the commitment to live according to the teaching of Jesus Christ.

But then you could tell me: "Why people go to hell? "

Simply because they have not accepted and validated the gift of God for them in the person of Jesus Christ. Unfortunately I come across very few Christians who understand this truth. And satan knows it, he takes advantage of it to infiltrate this kind of thoughts that says: "You must state all your sins before going through the new birth, or the maximum of them in any case". This is wrong, this is useless for God because you are already forgiven. God will not be mad at you if you do it, but it is useless for Him. What God wants is just that we accept His gift by saying "Yes I agree, I understand that all my sins have been forgiven even before I came into this world, and now I'm going to follow the teaching of Jesus".

Here again this is an example where satan has been able to change the truth. A majority of Christians, when they encounter someone and speak to him about Jesus they say: "To be born again, you have to humiliate yourself, to ask forgiveness to God for all your misdeeds, because you are far away from Him, etc...". If those same people were saying instead: "Do you know that God has given you a huge gift, that He loves you with an unconditional love? Yes Jesus Christ forgave all the evil that you could have done in your life. You don't even need to ask for forgiveness because forgiveness has already been given to you. And if you want to validate this gift, if you want it to become a reality in you, you just have to say: "Yes, thank you Jesus, I repent of my past life, now I'm going to follow what you have taught, because I have understood that it is the best for me."

Do you now understand the subtleties that satan uses. If he is called the evil one it is not for nothing. Most of the time he keeps a small part of truth and he changes everything else into a lie, and it becomes a satanic thought.

As the example that we saw at the beginning of this study with Eve, who had a poor understanding of what God had said, it is most of the time a lack of knowledge that leads us to believe what the demons suggest to us in thought. Because if I know what the bible says, I can discern a demonic thought in my soul, and immediately destroyed it by the word of Christ that is in me. This is the only thing that satan or one of his demons can try against me who is born again: telling me lies, suggesting me a thought that I may accept due to my lack of knowledge.

But there, as we said above, the Holy Spirit is a vital help, this is why the fact of forming a team by entering into dialogue with Him is essential.

From experience, I can tell you that, the more I grow in biblical knowledge, the more I learn what the Holy Spirit teaches me, the more the traps of satanic lies, are easy to detect. Yet it happened sometimes that I fall into one of his traps, but it's really more and more rare. And I know that things are improving, as I continue to learn from God's word regularly.

Today I no longer have any fear concerning satan and his demons. I know in first place that satan has other concerns than me, Franck. I don't think I have a strategic position yet on Earth that my decisions will influence him. I think that satan is busier in lying, putting thoughts, or possessing people such as heads of countries, dictators, or high decision-makers. But I am not fearful or impressed by the demons that can try to make me sin, it is all the contrary.

I know that by writing this study the demons that seeing me are filled with anger and hatred towards me, but it does not affect me. We must simply be vigilant, do not believe, and correctly analyze all our decisions, all our attitudes, all our priorities. And with the time going, with the help of my best friend the Holy Spirit, it becomes more and more natural.

I know today who I am, I know what I worth because of Jesus who lives in me, and I know that the power of His word is active in me. And that's why in the morning when I get up and I put my feet on the ground, I know that

somewhere there are demons that tremble by saying to each other: "Oh no, he's awake! He gets up, it's going to be a bad day for us today!".

If you are born again, do not be afraid anymore, don't fear satan or any of his demons, they cannot do anything against you unless you let them do, but they can't touch you. They cannot force you to do something that you have not agreed to do.

If it happens that demonic spirits use someone else against you, do not fear. The same authority that Jesus had on Earth is also in you, use it! If you do not know how to do it, read my study named: "I take and I use my authority", you will discover everything you are capable to, all what God has put in you by His spirit. Use this authority without any restraint.

It happens sometimes that demons use some of our brothers or sisters who do not have a great knowledge, to affect us by making them believing any wrong belief. Of course these brothers or sisters are unaware most of the time that they are, like Peter for a moment, a pawn that swallows satanic thoughts. I am not ashamed to say that because it happened to me often in the past to be a pawn who had been "walked over" by a satanic thought that I "swallow" because of my lack of knowledge of the word. It is possible that this still happens to me, but I try not to be trapped anymore on this subject. Of course I still have defects that demons can use, but I'm very careful, I'm ready and I'm waiting for them. This is not because sometimes I get trapped that I am discouraged.

No not at all!

If I see a gap in my knowledge, a fault in my character, I ask the Holy Spirit that together we can solve the problem. It can sometimes take a bit of time, but this is what I often repeat to our three children: "In our spiritual life, regardless of the speed we are at, the key is to move forward without stopping".

One of the keys to success is to renew our soul regularly.

How do I do it?

By reading the Bible deeply. By trying to understand what the author had in his spirit when he wrote. Not by swallowing chapters one after the other, but

whether to stop on one or two verses until I am able to understand and integrate what the Holy Spirit has to teach me in this regard.

This study has been offer to you by "***The Real Good News***" Ministry.

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