

The devil & you

What or who is the devil?

Bible verses.....

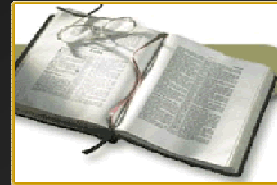


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What or who is the devil?

Bible verses.....

".... And Satan also came among them"

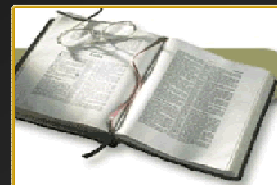


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What or who is the devil?

Bible verses.....

"Get behind me Satan....."

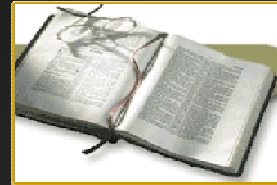


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What or who is the devil?

Bible verses.....

“... that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil...”

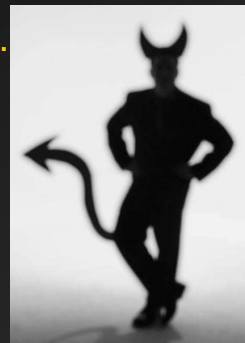


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What or who is the devil?

Add to that common ideas.....

- The enemy of God
- A fallen angel
- One that looks over hell
- Horned creature



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What or who is the devil?

The devil could be

A supernatural force, that is the enemy of God, has the power of death, tempts man to do wrong and is opposed to all things that are good



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Know your enemy

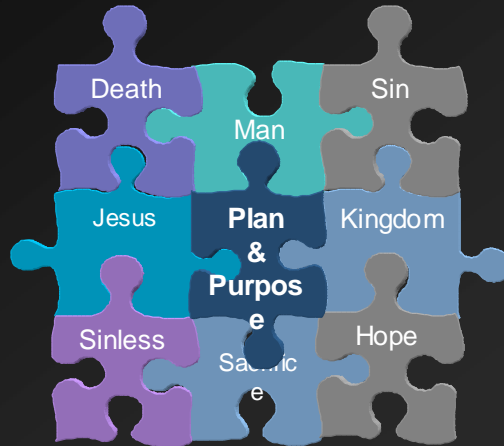
The devil – opposed to God?

- Need to understand what or who the devil is
- Need to understand why God would allow an 'enemy'?
- **Need to 'know the enemy'**

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The Bible

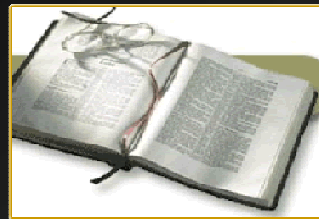
One complete message



The devil & you

The Bible

God's word



- Reveals to us his plan and purpose
- A kingdom to be established
- Men & Women living in harmony with God
- Jesus – provides hope

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The devil in the Bible



Satan

- Old & New Testaments
- Number of occurrences

Devil

- Mainly a New Testament word

Looking at both helps understanding

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Examples of satan

Look at Balaam – Num 22:22

“The angel of the LORD stood in the way for an adversary against him.” (AV)

- ‘adversary’ – satan
- Appears again in v32 – ‘withstand’

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Examples of satan

The example of Job

– Job 1v6 – *“Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.”* (AV)

– Does this support idea of ‘Satan’ – enemy of God?

– Just an adversary among those gathered

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Examples of satan

Job continued...

– Job 1v10,11

“You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face” (NIV)

- Are these the words of an evil enemy?
- God brought troubles on Job (a rich man with a large family)
- Job’s adversary saw his wishes fulfilled
- So what sort of ‘satan’ or ‘adversary’ are we dealing with?

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Examples of satan

Peter

- Matt 16:21 – ‘Get behind me Satan’
- Another example of ‘Satan’ – the enemy?
- Peter struggled to accept what Jesus was saying must happen
- Jesus describes Peter as a hindrance (stumbling block)
- If Peter intervened, Jesus might not have died
- Peter’s mind – not on “the things of God, but the things of men” – Matt 16:23
- ‘Satan’ – Greek words written in a single ‘upper case’
- So what sort of ‘satan’ or ‘adversary’ are we dealing with?

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Examples of satan - summary

What have we seen?

‘satan’ is an adversary – almost always trying to stop what is right

We have seen ‘satan’ as...

- An angel of God doing God’s will (**Balaam**)
- A man posing as a worshipper of God (**Job**)
- A disciple of Jesus wanting his way done (**Peter**)

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A Greek word, not Hebrew

Translated as different words.....

2 Tim 3:1-3 - "In the last days there will come times of stress"..... "men will be lovers of self, lovers of money..... Slanderers, etc....."

- Slanderer, accuser – 'devil'
- Translated today as '**diabolical**'!

The word is used of **people**

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An important verse - Hebrews 2v14

"Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil....."

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Heb 2:14

Children – share in flesh & blood

“Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil.....”

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Heb 2:14

Jesus had the same nature

*“Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, **he himself likewise partook of the same nature**, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil.....”*

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Heb 2:14

2 important declarations

*“Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same nature, ① **that through death he might destroy him** ② **who has the power of death, that is, the devil.....”***

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Heb 2:14 – Devil & Power of Death?

Heb 2:14

“...that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil.....”

Heb 9:26

“.....but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.”

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Heb 2:14 – Devil & Power of Death?

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The devil – Sin

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Heb 2:14 – Devil & Power of Death?

Romans 5:21

“so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace must reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (NIV)

Romans 6:23

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life”

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Heb 2:14 - summarised

“Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil.....”

Followers are ‘flesh & blood’

Jesus had the same nature

Jesus died

Destroyed the power of death

That is - the devil (or sin)

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Heb 2:14

Devil & Power of Death?

The devil is not a person with the ability to kill

The devil is merely sin - man's natural inclination to do wrong

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Man's inclination to sin

"The good that I would, that I do not" - **Paul**

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" - **Jeremiah**

"For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" - **Jesus**

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Man & Sin

James 1:14,15

*“Each person is tempted when he is lured
and enticed by his own desire”*

*“Then desire when it has conceived gives
birth to sin; and sin when it is full grown
brings forth death.”*

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Wrapping it up

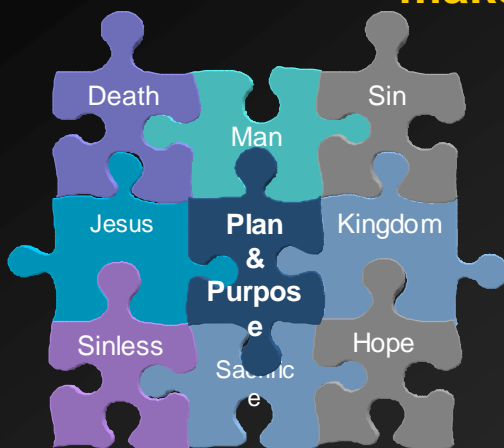
- There is no supernatural enemy of God
- Satan means ‘adversary’
- Devil means ‘accuser’
- Used to describe ‘sin’ and our own failings

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Are you still not sure?

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**So – what difference does it
make?**



Get the 'devil' wrong –
you cannot fully
understand God's plan
& purpose

The work of Jesus in
overcoming sin &
death is key to
understanding God's
plan & purpose

Know your enemy

Its ourselves!

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