

Doctrine of Demonology

Satan as Accuser

1. Without demonology, there would be no theology. The same source the church uses to learn of God is the source it learns of Satan.
2. One of the primary works of Satan in the life of the believer takes the form of constant accusations.
 - *Revelation 12:10 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.*
3. While Satan does tempt us to do evil, he is satisfied to accuse the believers in order to paralyze their effectiveness with shame and guilt, and render them useless.
4. Satan loves to torment the conscience of the saints. In a self-centered world, dedicated to achieving a good self-image, Satan finds fertile territory in which to work.
5. Secular psychology has discovered there is a raw nerve in human nature that longs to be attended to. The Bible calls this raw nerve, guilt. All men are guilty before God, for all have sinned and come short of His glory. Every person has broken at least one of God's moral laws.
 - *James 2:10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*
6. The guilt of the individual is screaming for attention in society. The question is, "What do you do with your guilt?" There is the assumption of guilt.
7. The problem of unresolved guilt is not something that affects a person on a temporary basis. Guilt is persistent. Guilt produces a heavy burden.

Special Note.

Some women who have aborted a child have post-abortion traumatic experiences, whereby they see their unborn child in others. They think about what they have done every day of their life, and many regret robbing a baby of life.

8. The heart of the biblical message is forgiveness. Herein is good news, because fear and guilt can immobilize a person.
9. An example of satanic accusation is found in the life of the high priest, Joshua. The priest appears in the presence of God.
 - *Zechariah 3:1 And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.*

10. Where the people of God are, so is Satan, and he needs to be rebuked. When Satan accused the brethren, the Lord came to the defense.

- *Zechariah 3:2 And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?*

Special Note.

A brand, or stick, pulled out of the fire will have charcoal on it. It is dirty, but it survives, to be used again. So, every Christian is charred, and soiled by the world, but, when pulled out of the fire of destruction, can be useful. When God rescues a brand, He might get His hands dirty, but He proceeds to rescue sinners.

11. As Joshua the high priest stood before the Lord, he stood clothed with filthy garments.

- *Zechariah 3:3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.*

12. Satan saw the filthy garments of Joshua, and declared him to be unfit for service. The filthy garments are even more alarming when it is realized the priestly garments were designed by the Lord to be beautiful.

- *Exodus 28:1 And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.*

13. Every Christian has filthy garments. Satan knows about our skeletons, and so do we. Satan rattles the bones, and the skeletons come out of the closet. In matchless grace, the Lord cleanses us from all sin.

- *Zechariah 3:4 And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment. 5 And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the Lord stood by.*

14. When a person redeems a person, there is still the need for cleansing. The Lord takes every sinner, and clothes him in a robe of righteousness.

- *Isaiah 61:10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.*

15. As we live our lives in the presence of God, we have to listen to the Enemy who is constantly calling attention to our sins. Satan accuses the believe in order to take away our peace, and paralyze our service.

- 16.** Peace in the heart returns when a believer makes his calling and election sure. Joshua heard the accusation of Satan, but Joshua also heard the voice of the Lord, and was comforted.
- *Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*
- 17.** A person under an accusation does not have peace. A person who knows they are rightly related to the Lord, a person who can stand clothed in holiness in the Lord's presence, is a person of power, and can transform the world.
- 18.** It is important not to be doubleminded in spiritual matters.
- *James 1:18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.*
- 19.** The subtlety of Satan is found in his ability to accuse people of things for which they are innocent.
- 20.** Any person who has been ascribed a motive they do not have, knows how devastating a false accusation can be. When a person is accused of doing something they have not done, that is slander, and an injustice has been done. Satan does that. He tarnishes their reputation to make the believer depressed and ineffectual.
- 21.** On other occasions, Satan attacks the Christian where the believer is guilty. The clothes of Joshua were actually dirty. Joshua needed to be cleansed, and so Joshua needed the convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit to bring him to repentance and confession.
- *1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*
- 22.** What Joshua did not need was to be reminded by Satan of a forgiven sin.
- 23.** There is a difference between the accusing work of Satan, and the convicting work of the Holy Spirit.
- 24.** While the Holy Spirit brings sorrow and regret, there is sweetness to His work. The believer knows the Holy Spirit is not out to destroy him. In contrast, the purpose of Satan is to destroy the Christian.
- 25.** Christian, the Spirit always communicates that He is for you, when He convicts you of sin.
- 26.** The only remedy for real guilt is real forgiveness. Receive the convicting work of the Holy Spirit, but reject the accusatory work of Satan.
- 27.** Recognize the subjective, and objective facets of guilt. Guilt is defined biblically as the transgression of the Moral Law of God. That is an objective fact.

28. The subjective facet of guilt is the feeling that God allows to be experienced as part of the moral nature of the human heart.
29. How a person feels has nothing to do with original guilt. He may or may not feel guilty. What Satan does is to focus on a person's feeling, which is why the heart must embrace the objective reality of God's forgiveness.
- *Romans 8:33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.*
20. The only way to please God is by loving the Lord, keeping His commandments, receiving His grace, and not being paralyzed by the accusations of Satan.