

Head Games

The biblical picture of Satan is quite different from the popular Hollywoods version. In the Bible, he is not the comical cartoon creature with horns, tail, and pitchfork, dressed in long red underwear. Rather, Satan is an adversary, who is clever, crafty, deceptive and dangerous. 1 Peter 5:8

Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Do you know what you don't know? No
you don't know.

There are two ways of not knowing:

- 1) being ignorant
- 2) being deceived.

Being tempted is different from being
deceived.

If I tempt you, you would know it. If I
deceived you, you wouldn't know it.

There is a thief who wants to Deceive you out of the most valuable possession of all—your eternal life and your future in the Kingdom of the Most High God.

This thief works through deceptive practices, from selfish vanity to pride to dangerous occultism, seeking to turn people away from the truth and from the way of life that will bring immortality.

The Bible warns us about the greatest deceiver
of all—HaSatan the Devil.

Are you aware of his tactics?

Are you prepared to avoid his schemes?

Could you fall victim to his deceptions?

Deception allows Satan to fly under the radar
screen largely unnoticed.

There are two ways we can be ignorant:

1. YWHY has not revealed it to us yet.
2. YHWY has tried to reveal it to us but, for
whatever reason we didn't see it.

Everyone has been deceived. I have been deceived.
You have been deceived. But, thankfully, God calls us
out of this world's deception, through the true Jesus
Christ of the Bible!

2Co 11:3-4 But I am afraid that, as the serpent
deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led
astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to
Christ. For if one comes and preaches another Jesus
whom we have not preached, or you receive a different
spirit which you have not received, or a different
gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this
beautifully.

A different Jesus:

Christianity: Jesus of the Trinity.

Islam: Jesus was just a prophet, they believe the teaching of Jesus was limited by the will of Allah, a quote from the Quran "O you who believe. Be you helpers (in the Cause) of Allâh as said (Jesus), son of (Mary), to (the disciples): "Who are my helpers (in the Cause) of Allâh?" (the disciples) said: "We are Allâh's helpers" (i.e. we will strive in His Cause.)The Quran reports Jesus will sit beside Allah during the judgment.

Judaism: Jesus was not virgin born, Jesus practiced magic and led Israel astray, deny Jesus as messiah, deny his resurrection.

Hinduism: Jesus a Hindu saint, Jesus is a God.

Buddhism: believe Jesus was an enlightened man and a wise teacher.

These are not the same Jesus I read about.

What does the Bible say about deceiving ourselves?

1. We deceive ourselves when we hear the word and don't do it—when we fail to practice what we preach: James 1:22 (NIV)*Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."*

2. We deceive ourselves when, because of our pride, we say we have no sin. We are not sinless christians. We are christians who sin. The church is a place where we can go and learn the scripture together so we can learn how not to sin. If we participate, our sinning should become less and less.

1Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

3. We deceive ourselves when we think we're something that we are not: Gal 6:3-4 For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another.

Ro 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

4. We deceive ourselves when we mistake the world's wisdom for God's wisdom: 1Co 3:18-19 Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you thinks that he is wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before God. For it is written, "He is THE ONE WHO CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS"; The height of arrogance is to think that we know better than the "all-wise God."

We cannot match wits with the God of this world Hasatan let alone YHWY the creator of all things. Whenever we think we can out smart Satan we are candidates for being led astray by his crafty deceitfulness. It's important that we not rely on our own understanding but rather acknowledge God in all our ways. Pr 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

5. We deceive ourselves when we think we are religious but do not bridle our tongue. Jas 1:26-27 If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless. 27 Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

6. We deceive ourselves when we think we will not reap what we sow. Gal 6:7-10 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. 10 So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.

7. We deceive ourselves when we think that the unrighteous will inherit the kingdom of God. 1Co 6:9-11 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit¹⁵ of our God.

8. We deceive ourselves when we think that we can continually associate with bad company and not be corrupted. 1Co 15:33 Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

Satan has many strategies, schemes, and devices to deceive us. Some unknowingly worship him as an "angel of light" while others look to him through séances, tarot cards, channeling and astrology. Millions of people dabble in the occult and seek answers from soothsayers and mystics. These dark practices are deceptive, and most who call themselves Christians can recognize blatant Satanic influence. But Satan also has many other more subtle schemes.

Satan Deceptions

Some of Satans weapons in his arsenal?

1. Fear/False Accusation/Condemnation
2. Doubt/Misinformation
3. Assumptions
4. Anger/Hostility
5. Worry/Anxiety
6. Guilt
7. Tempts us and blinds us by Deception/Lies
8. Discouragement/Disappointment
9. Depression
10. Division/Conflict
11. Ignorance/Misconceptions

Some of the primary objectives of Satan?

1. To deceive us concerning the true nature of sin.
2. To cause us to doubt the truth of God's Word
3. To cause us to feel inferior and inadequate—low self-esteem (depression)
4. To make us believe we are competing against each other.
5. To discourage us concerning our progress in spiritual growth. (I'm good where I'm at, I don't have to be evolved)

6. To disappoint through the mistakes and inconsistency of ourselves and others.

7. To cause us to lose our vitality and credibility.

8. To encourage us to abandon following Yeshua.

9. To render us ineffective and unfruitful in our service of God.

10. To divide us from others through unnecessary and unresolved conflict.

When are we vulnerable to Satan's lies?

We are most vulnerable when we are most ignorant. We're most equipped when we're studying and living a life of prayer.

1Co 16:13 Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

Our Primary Means of Offense and Defense

The Armor of God. Eph 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

13 Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. 14 Stand firm therefore, **HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,** 15 and having shod **YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE;** 16 in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 And take **THE HELMET OF SALVATION,** and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,

What are the two most important parts of the armor?

1. The Shield Of Faith
2. The Sword Of The Spirit.

The sword of the spirit and the shield of faith is to stop the enemy from getting to the most vital parts of the armor but, if we allow the enemy to constantly pound on the shield without using the sword of the spirit to keep the enemy at bay and run him off we will get fatigued and loosen our Guard and he will injure us.

We should try our best to not allow the deception to reach the helmet, breast plate or the shoes because one always effects another.

Is it possible?

1Jn 4:4 You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

2Co 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, 4 for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. 5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,

Matt. 6:13 "And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen"

Until next time remember YHWYS plan for you is better than your plan for you.