

JOB SERIES SIXTEEN
THE BATTLE OVER ME: SATAN, JOB AND DECEPTION
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**JOB 1,2,4,7,42; GENESIS 3:13; 2 CORINTHIANS 11:1-4; 1 PETER 5:8-9; REVELATION 12:10; ZECHARIAH 3:1-4;
JOB 14:12-21; JOB 7:13-15; TITUS 3:3; JEREMIAH 17:9; 2 CORINTHIANS 4:4; MARK 4:19; MATTHEW 13:22;
PHILIPPIANS 3:6; 1 CORINTHIANS 3:18; JAMES 1:16; GALATIANS 6:7; 1 CORINTHIANS 15:33; 1 CORINTHIANS
6:9-10; ROMANS 6:23; I JOHN 1:8-9; MATTHEW 24:5,11,24; GALATIANS 6:3; ROMANS 16:17-18; JAMES
1:26; 2 CORINTHIANS 11:3; 1TIMOTHY 2:11; JAMES 1:22**
(Sermon 1601)

Today is our final sermon in the Book of Job. I feel like we are saying “good-bye” to an old friend. However, we will never say “good-bye” to the experiences, truths and lessons we have learned. May we use them well in our spiritual journey with the Lover of our souls.

Let’s discuss DECEPTION for a few moments.

Job was deceived. He thought God was behind his troubles. However, Satan was the author of them all (Job 1:20-22; 2:10; and 42:11). If deception can happen to Job, it can happen to any of us. Even in a “perfect” state before the Fall in Genesis 3, the Serpent deceived Eve (Genesis 3:13). If deception can happen to Eve it can happen to any of us (2 Corinthians 11:1-4). Let’s develop a working definition of deception: “When we are deceived we don’t know we have a problem. If we knew we had a problem, we would not be deceived.” Many of us are worried today about a potential war in Iraq. At the same time we are blissfully unconcerned about the current battle going on over us (1 Peter 5:8-9: “Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith”).

Today, let’s examine the role of Satan in Job’s life and in ours.

THE STRUGGLE WITH SATAN ALWAYS CENTERS AROUND WHO WILL BE IN CHARGE OF MY MIND.

Let’s use several Models to illustrate the ongoing battle.

Let’s explain the difference between demon possession and “demonization.”

“Any area of our lives not directly yielded in submission to the Holy Spirit is open to control by the Devil.”

NOW, LET’S EXAMINE THE DEVIL’S WORK IN THE BOOK OF JOB AND LEARN SOME LESSONS.

Satan’s opening salvos are unveiled in Job 1:6-12, and Job 2:1-7.

“Satan” means “adversary,” or “to resist” (See Revelation 12:10; and Zechariah 3:1-4). He is engaged in a wholesale commitment to ruin God’s people and to destroy God’s plan.

Here is a quick survey of Satan’s personality:

He has a mind (intellect)—he conversed with the Lord.

He has emotions—he was antagonistic towards Job.

He has a will—he purposed to destroy Job and disgrace God.

Be certain to note the divine wall placed around Job’s life. We want one of those, too.

Here is a quick survey of Satanic theology:

Satan is accountable to God.

Satan’s power is limited.

Satan is behind much of the evil in the earth.

Satan is under God’s control.

Satan has tremendous power but his actions are limited.

Satan is a liar and slanderer.

There are two demonic appearances in Job.

In Job 4:12-21 a demonic spirit gave Eliphaz the strategic arguments that he and his two other friends would use in their misguided arguments against Job.

In Job 7:13-15) demonic spirits came to terrify Job in his troubles.

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM BEING DECEIVED?

Grow up to maturity in Jesus Christ. Set your heart on becoming a Spiritual Mother or Father. Examine carefully the Three Classes Of Christians:

Class I: Unsurrendered—Deceived

Class II: Surrendered—Deceived

Class III: Surrendered—Undeceived

Follow carefully the Bible. The guidance there will keep us out of deception.

The Bible Reveals Numerous Sources Of Deception. Beware!

- The Fall And Our Original Sin Nature (Titus 3:3)
- The Human Heart (Our Sin Nature, “The Flesh”) (Jeremiah 17:9)
- Satan’s Work Of Blinding Unbelievers (2 Corinthians 4:4)
- Lies (Genesis 3:13)
- An Improper Perspective On Riches And Wealth (Mark 4:19; Matthew 13:22)
- Religious Self-Righteousness (Philippians 3:6)
- The Wisdom Of The “World” And Its Belief System (1 Corinthians 3:18)
- A Flawed Picture Of God (James 1:16)

The Bible Reveals Several Faulty Conclusions Of The Deceived. Be Careful!

- “Contact With Sin Will Not Have An Effect on me” (Galatians 6:7; 1 Corinthians 15:33).
- “I Can Behave Any Way I Want To And Still Inherit The Kingdom Of God” (1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Romans 6:23).
- “I Don’t Have Any Sin” (1 John 1:8).
- “Signs, Wonders And Miracles Are Always From God” (Matthew 24:5, 11, and 24).
- “I am special and different from everybody else” (Galatians 6:3).
- “I am as good, special, or important as people say I am” (Romans 16:17-18).
- “I can say anything I want to” (James 1:26).
- “I Don’t Need To Remain Under God’s Umbrella Of Protection And/Or Authority” (2 Corinthians 11:3ff; 1 Timothy 2:11).
- “It Doesn’t Make Any Difference Or Not Whether I Do What The Bible Says” (James 1:22).

LET’S APPLY WHAT WE’VE HEARD.

1. Keep Your Eyes Open. We Can Be Deceived—And Don’t You Forget It.
2. Satan Is Out To Destroy Us; But Remember, The Savior Is Praying Earnestly For Us.
3. Satan Is Limited In What He Can Do. Stay Inside God’s Hedge Of Protection. Why Be Stupid?
4. We Are Not Defenseless. Daily and Prayerfully Put On The Spiritual Armor Of Ephesians 6:10-17.