

SATAN CAN BE TRAPPED

Galatians 5:19-21; James 4:7

Introduction: Satan is alive! He is alive and must be dealt with person to person. He is like a thief, a burglar trying to break into your mind, thoughts, life.

As we have burglar protection for our houses, lights, detection devices, alarm bells, even weapons, so the Christian has alarms, tools, weapons that can be applied to Satan, a spiritual, invisible prowler, thief.

I. THE FIRST PROTECTION IS LIGHT

1. Satan attempts to keep our minds in the dark, therefore God's Word is light. Keep God's Word in your thoughts.

II. THE SECOND PROTECTION IS DETECTION

1. Satan attempts to get "self" to act in areas where we are weak for he watches for these areas in us.
 - Lust, idolatry, laziness, touchiness, judgmentalism, divisions.
 - Gossip, worry, pessimism, doubt, selfishness, distraction.
 - Lying, dissatisfaction, easily discouraged, wastefulness.
 - Abusive, covetous, depression, fears, procrastination, etc.
 - NOTE: All these deal with "SELF."
2. It's easy to blame others, or even one's self, but it is Satan who is to blame.
3. Set the trap! (The hardest part is to DETECT Satan's presence).
 - In weak areas, such as worry, bills, job, etc., Satan will cause us to dwell on these and worry,
BUT God says: *Philippians 4:6-7*
 - Select Scripture to fit your weak areas.
 - Remind yourself that Satan will be after you.
 - Pray that the Holy Spirit will help you recognize Satan's presence.
 - Watch, be alert, expect Satan's appearance in your weak areas.
4. Spring the trap!
 - When "self" wants to take over in your weak area, your've reacted or about to react as always
STOP!
 - You are aware that Satan is there...aha! You've caught him.

III. SOUND THE ALARM

1. Out of nowhere your name is called! What is your reaction? Startled? Shocked? Even Scared?
2. SPEAK TO SATAN! You've caught him meddling, prowling around your life.
 - Satan will not go away until he is told to do so and with your weapon backing you up.
 - "SATAN! Begone! For God says (quote the text, the Scripture) in the area you have caught him in..."

3. Satan has been defeated, but he is not dead. He fears only Jesus Christ.
 - The name of Jesus Christ is our authority. **ONLY AT THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST** will Satan leave.
 - "SATAN! IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST GO, for Jesus says....."

IV. THE WEAPON (*Jeremiah 23:29; James 2:19*)

1. To counter Satan's words, we use God's Words.
 - Satan does not fear the bible being read by us or us memorizing it.
 - Only when it is used against him in the name of JESUS!
2. Have you ever walked from darkness into a bright light? Ever have a flash camera go off in your eyes?
 - It is the same with Satan when God's Word is used against him with the name of Jesus Christ.

3. Satan says:	God says:
worry	be anxious for nothing
gossip	love one another, bear one another's burdens
covet	set your affections on things above
lust	be ye holy for I am holy
be dissatisfied	be content with such things as ye have
fear	my peace I give unto you
defeat	be of good cheer, I have overcome the world

CONCLUSION:

1. The more serious you are about Jesus Christ, the more Satan works in your life.
2. Godliness is no defense against Satan.
3. ***"Resist the devil and he will flee from you..."***
4. ***"...At the name of JESUS, every knee shall bow..."***
5. Christian, you have protection against Satan, learn how to use it.