**SATAN’S WILES AND WICKED DEVICES**

**SCRIPTURE READING …EPHESIANS 6:10-**

**"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."** **"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the**

**darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."**

**"Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." STAND.**

BELOVED, When Paul wrote his second epistle to the Corinthians, he was making them know about the possibility that Satan might take advantage of them:

Paul wrote the following …. **"lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices."**

As Christians, God did not leave us in a position to be caught off guard...

 a. Satan's advantage is based upon one being ***"uninformed of his devices"***

 b. But if we are aware and informed of the methods Satan uses to lead people astray, we can

 successfully overturn his plans to defeat Gods children!

3. What are some of **"The wiles and wicked Devices Of Satan"**? What kind of an offensive strategy can we put up against them.?

First thing on this short list is of the many things he uses is…..

**I. HE BLINDS THE MINDS OF PEOPLE WITH LIES AND HYPOCRISY**

1. There are some Christians whom the god of this world" has blinded

[***2Co 4:3-4***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Co%204.3-4)***3****But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost* ***4****In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

***But how does Satan accomplish his mission in this area??***

1. The Spirit warned this would be done through **"doctrines of demons"** –

[***1Ti 4:1-3***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Ti%204.1-3)*Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;****2****Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;****3****Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.*

1. Today, many people’s minds are blinded to the truth...

 a. Blinded by the doctrine of **ATHEISM** which claims there is no such thing as God!

 b. Blinded by the doctrine of **EVOLUTION** which claims that we are all animals!

 c. Blinded by the doctrine of **INTELLECTUALISM** which claims man’s intelligence is the only true

 source of all things, and in him alone we can find the solution to all our problems.

 Beloved, Those who are highly blinded by Satan are hindered from receiving the truth!!

 **B. WHAT IS OUR BEST OFFENCE AGAINST AVOIDING BEING BLINDED BY SATAN??**

 Beloved, our greatest weapon against Satan, is living in **TRUTH**, with it we can defeat the false ideologies of Satan and we in turn can free those who have been blinded and led into captivity against their will!!

[***Jn 8:32***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Jn%208.32)*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

1. In order to cast down all the different mis information of Satan which cause arguments…we are again advised to act on the following…

[***2 Co 10:5***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Co%2010.5)***5****Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;*

1. Paul the Apostle used a very simple approach, he simply “***reasoned"*** with others – in other words, he never allowed himself to fall into unnecessary arguments which would lead him to discredit his belief, doctrine, and walk with Christ!

[**Acts 17:2-3**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ac%2017.2-3)**; 2***And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,****3****Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.*

**Acts** [**19:8-9**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ac%2019.8-9)*And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God.****9****But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of that way before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus.*

 Other weapons involve walking in a CHRIST-LIKE ATTITUDE that is "mighty in God"...

1. For example, we must walk in the meekness and gentleness of Christ.

[**2Co 10:1-4**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Co%2010.1-4)*Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you:****2****But I beseech you, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.****3****For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:****4****(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)*

1. Also, we must use patience and humility in correcting others in order to set them free!

**2*Ti 2:24-2624****And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,****25****In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;****26****And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.*

 "Beloved when we Speak the truth in love” we can defeat this "wile and wicked device of Satan"!

[***Ep 4:15***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ep%204.15)***15****But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:*

***Second thing on the list is the following… Satan will try to ….***

**II. GET PEOPLE CONNECTED AND ATTACHED TO "THE THINGS OF THE WORLD"**

1. In 1st John chapter 2 we are given an overview of how this wicked evil device operates….

[***1 Jn 2:15-17***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Jn%202.15-17)***15****Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.****16****For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.****17****And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*

 a. The lust of the flesh

 b. The lust of the eyes

 c. The pride of life

1. Satan used these tactics against EVE.

[***Gen 3:6***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gen%203.6)*And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*

 a. What she held in her hand was "good for food" to her which filled (**the lust of the flesh**)

 b. It was "pleasant to the eyes and wholesome to look at which satisfied the (**lust of the eyes**)

 c. It was "desirable to make one wise" which opened the door to the (**pride of life)**

1. Satan also tried these tactics in tempting Jesus –

[***Mt 4:1-11***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%204.1-11)*Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.****2****And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.****3****And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.****4****But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.****5****Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,****6****And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.****7****Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.****8****Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;****9****And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.****10****Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.****11****Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.*

 a. "command that these stones become bread" (**lust of the flesh)**

 b. "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down..." (**pride of life)**

 c. "All these things I will give you if..." **(lust of the eyes**)

 4. Today, Satan uses these tactics with a vengeance, tempting people through...

 a. **Immorality** don’t worry what you are doing is not that bad, (lust of the flesh)

 b. **Materialism,** enjoy the things of life to your fullest, (lust of the eyes)

 c. **Arrogance** is an attitude in display of superiority as in a [***presumptuous***](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/presumptuous) person (pride of life)

 **B. WHAT SHOULD OUR BEST OFFENCE BE AGAINST IT...**

 1. We should continually engulf ourselves with the Word of God! This is how Jesus overcame all His

 temptations by the devil!!

 Let’s notice how He answered each temptation …..

 He always started His statements by saying…."**It is written**..."!! Meaning Gods Word is final!!!

[**Mt 4:4**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%204.4)**,**[**7**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%204.7)**,**[**10**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%204.10)

 2. We must always try to Develop a strong love for the Father!

 Reason being…For His love cannot be compared with a love for the world !!

[***1Jn 2:15***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Jn%202.15)***15****Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him*

 b. The scriptures clearly state that One cannot be a friend of the world and maintain friendship

 with God –

[***Jam 4:4***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Jm%204.4)***4****Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.*

 -- By saturating ourselves with God's Word and being strong in our love for Him, we will effectively

 submit to Him and be able to resist the devil, causing him to flee!

[***Jam 4:7***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Jm%204.7)***7****Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

**A Word of Caution is always a wise thing…. let's not think that Satan will give up easily; there are many other "devices" up his sleeve!.**

**Next…He will try…..**

**III. HARRASING AND PERSECUTING THOSE WHO ARE ALWAYS TRYING TO DO RIGHT THE**

 **RIGHT THING IN THE SIGHT OF GOD AND OTHERS!**

1. **REGARDING THIS SERIOUS “EVIL AND WICKED DEVICE" OF SATAN...**

 1. Peter warned that the devil is always out to devour Christians through persecutions!

[***1Pe 5:8-9***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%205.8-9)***8****Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:****9****Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.*

 2. Paul worried that afflictions and persecutions brought about by Satan might tempt the

 Thessalonians to give up!

[***1Th 3:1-5***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Th%203.1-5)*Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone;****2****And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellow labourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:****3****That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.****4****For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.****5****For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.*

 Beloved, even today, Satan persecutes Christians probably a whole lot more than before because

 his time is almost up!

 a. Some are going through great suffering as Christians!!

 b. Others through social pressures that are often equally effective: especially when we consider the

 following…..

1. **Peer pressure**… is a feeling that one must do the same things as other people of one's age and social group in order to be liked or respected by them. Normally it is called…Bullying!!

 2) **Ridicule**

 3) **Ostracism**….meaning the exclusion by general consent from common privileges or

 social acceptance…in a more down to earth meaning…cut off from the rest

 including all forms of participation in any kind of affairs.

 **B. WHAT SHOULD OUR BEST DEFENSE AGAINST IT BE?...**

 1. Encourage one another, We should never fail to be a source of encouragement to one another!!

 a. This is what Peter sought to do !

[**1Pe 5:8-10**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%205.8-10)**8***Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:****9****Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.****10****But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you*

1. Paul sent Timothy to do the same !

[*1Th 3:2-3*](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Th%203.2-3)*2And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellow labourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:3That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.*

 2. Adopt the proper attitude: **Rejoice!**

 a. Knowing that trials can make us stronger.

[***Jm 1:2-4***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Jm%201.2-4)***;*** *My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;****3****Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.****4****But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*

[***Ro 5:3-4***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ro%205.3-4)***3****And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;****4****And patience, experience; and experience, hope:*

1. Knowing that those who endure are blessed by God!

[***1 Pe 4:12-14***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20Pe%204.12-14)***; 2****Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:****13****But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.****14****If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.*

[***Mt 5:10-12***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%205.10-12)*Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.****11****Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.****12****Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.*

1. Commit yourself to God in doing good.

[***1Pe 4:19***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Pe%204.19)***19****Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.*

 a. Beloved, God is a faithful Creator

 b. He takes note of our suffering, and will one day repay those who trouble us (including Satan

 himself, and give us the rest we richly deserve.!

[*2Th 1:4-8*](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Th%201.4-8)*; So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:5Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:6Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;7And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,8In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:*

[***Re 20:10***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Re%2020.10)***0****And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*

The following is another **“Wicked and Evil Device”** that Satan uses to swallow up Christians…

**IV. TO GET CHRISTIANS TO ENJOY BEING A PART OF EVIL COMPANY!**

1. **REGARDING THIS "DEVICE" OF SATAN...ALL THAT CAN BE SAID IS THAT….**

 1. The wrong companions can defeat one's effort to do good.

[***1Co 15:33***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Co%2015.33)***3****Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.*

 2. Amnon was led astray by the counsel of his "friend", Jonadab

 -

[***2 Sa 13:1***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Sa%2013.1ff)*And it came to pass after this, that Absalom the son of David had a fair sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her.*

 3. Today, many Christians are hindered in their spiritual growth...

 a. By the company they keep

 b. By the activities in which such company engages

 **B. OUR BEST DEFENSE AGAINST IT...**

 1. Realize the danger of the wrong companions.

[***Pr 13:20***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Pr%2013.20)***0****He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.*

 2. Heed the advice Paul made to the Corinthians:

 a. "Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers..."

[***2Co 6:14-16***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Co%206.14-16)***4****Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?****15****And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?****16****And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

 b. "Come out from among them..."

[***2Co 6:17-18***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Co%206.17-18)***17****Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.****18****And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty*

c"...perfecting holiness in the fear of God." –

[***2Co 7:1***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Co%207.1)*Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*

[Finally, let's look at one more "device" of Satan...]

**V. DISCOURAGE PEOPLE THROUGH UNCHRIST-LIKE CHRISTIANS**

 **A. REGARDING THIS "DEVICE" OF SATAN...**

 1. This relates to Paul's concern in our scripture text

[**2Co 2:6-11**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Co%202.6-11)*Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many.****7****So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow.****8****Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him.****9****For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof* *of you, whether ye be obedient in all things.10To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave anything, to* *whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ;****11****Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices*

1. A sinning brother was disciplined and had repented! What should our next attitude be like?
2. The need now was for the church to confirm their love and forgiveness towards that brother or

Sister otherwise, Satan might take advantage of this situation which will result in…

 1) Defeating the church by their unwillingness to forgive!

 2) Overcoming the weak brother by his being swallowed up in sorrow if forgiveness was not

 granted by the congregation making the person twice the child of hell!!!

 2. Today, Satan sometimes wins many souls by this "device"

 a. Christians who are unloving, unmerciful, and unforgiving, become stumbling blocks to others!

 b. Christians who are apathetic, sluggish, in their service and devotion to God, adversely influence new Christians

 **B. OUR BEST DEFENSE AGAINST IT...**

 1. Place our ultimate faith in the Lord, not in brethren.

[***2Ti 4:16-18***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2Ti%204.16-18)***6****At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.****17****Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.****18****And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

1. This is not to suggest that brethren can't be trusted, but brethren are fallible, the Lord is not!

 2. Remember that not all brethren set the proper example!!

[***3 Jn 9-12***](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/3Jn%209-12)*I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.****10****Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church.****11****Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.****12****Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself: yea, and we also bear record; and ye know that our record is true.*

 a. Imitate the good examples

 b. Don't let the bad ones discourage you!!!

**CONCLUSION**

1. This is not a list that covers every detail of Satan’s Evil and Wicked Devices” but only 5 of the ones that have work over the years in Satan’s favor

 a. The Scriptures certainly reveal much more about how the "Great Deceiver" works

2. I trust this lesson has been sufficient to show us that…

 a. That our adversary is indeed strong

 b. That ignorance of his devices will make us susceptible.

 c. That if we are not diligent, he can indeed take advantage of us!

Remember, therefore, these important words of the apostle Paul...

**"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."** **"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the**

**darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."**

**"Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." STAND. (**[**Ep 6:10-13**](http://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Ep%206.10-13)**)**

WILES Y LECTURA DE LAS ESCRITURAS DE DISPOSITIVOS MALOS DE SATANÁS... Efesios 6:10-"por, hermanos míos, fortaleceos en el Señor y en el poder de su fuerza. Vestíos de toda la armadura de Dios, que seáis firmes contra las asechanzas del diablo." "Para no luchar contra carne y sangre, sino contra principados, contra poderes, contra los gobernantes de las tinieblas de este siglo, contra huestes espirituales de maldad en el cielo lugares." "Por lo tanto, tomar toda la armadura de Dios, que seáis capaces de soportar en el día malo y habiendo hecho todo, estar." STAND. Amados, cuando Pablo escribió su segunda epístola a los Corintios, les hacía saber sobre la posibilidad de que Satanás podrían aprovechar de ellos: Pablo escribió lo siguiente... "no sea que Satanás deben tomar ventaja de nosotros; porque no somos ignorantes de sus dispositivos." Como cristianos, Dios lo hizo no nos deja en condiciones de ser sorprendidos... ventaja de a. Satanás se basa en un ser "ignorante de sus dispositivos"...