

DEMONOLOGY
Message 3

INTRO: I want to thank those of you who are praying for myself and my wife. Pray for our family as well. But pray for yourselves as well. It may sound strange but doing a series like this can bring a threat to ourselves, our family and you. When, in about the 1960's demonism began to spread into the North American culture, Hal Lindsay, noting this, determined to write a book on it. He said in the introduction to the book, "This book is an attempt to define a personal enemy who rules our world system. Whether we know it or not, he also influences every life to some degree." Then he said, "...I felt compelled to warn them (his wife and his co-author and his wife) that anyone involved in this project would be a target for the central character", meaning the devil. Then he goes on like this, "We all discovered the reality of our adversary. At times I thought I'd shelve the whole idea, but every time the progress on the manuscript was slowed down, I was shown another reason for the urgency of this message. I have never before come under such personal attack. It was not my imagination."

So, where are we? Our first message was basically this: We are in a huge battle and our mind is the battlefield. We are created tremendously complex beings who possess a body, a soul, and a spirit and God wants us to be sanctified or made holy in every part. The Lord Jesus Christ has won the battle and through Him we can win the battle.

In the second message we covered three views held by Christians as to what demons are and we said they are fallen angels. Somewhere before the creation of the universe Lucifer, an anointed Cherub rebelled against God and sinned by pride and took one third of the angels with him. He became the prince of demons and all the other angels that fell with him became demons.

Today we want to answer these three questions: 1 What is the meaning of the words; Satan, devil and demons? 2 What are demons like, and 3 what is the task of demons?

B. What Is The Meaning Of These Important Terms?

1. Satan

The word, 'satan' became one of the names for the fallen cherub called Lucifer. Have you ever given consideration to the meaning of the name, "Satan"? It is interesting that we do not ever come to this name until 1 Chronicles 21:1 (read). Now, from the way the name is used it is easy to see that the writer and readers must have been well familiar with the name, but it does not occur in Scripture earlier. In the Bible, many times we can learn a lot from a name. The meaning of the name was why the names were given.

The Hebrew word for 'Satan' is 'sawtawn'. Nineteen times it is used for the devil in the OT. This word means, *adversary* or *opponent*. It is not a word used to describe the devil only. The Hebrew word 'sawtawn' could be used of a good or bad adversary. But when it speaks of the one we know as the devil, it speaks of God's chief opponent or adversary, and thus we know him as Satan. He is an adversary or opponent to God and godly men. He is THE Satan, THE adversary. Satan is an adversary to everything good and godly. In the NT the rendering for the Hebrew Sawtawn is *Satanas*. Here it is used 34 times.

2. Devil

There is another name used to refer to Satan, or the fallen cherub Lucifer. It is the name 'Devil'. It might surprise you to know that this word is not used in the OT at all to refer to Satan. In the plural, as devils, meaning demons as we use it, it occurs only twice in the OT. That changes in the NT. So, go to Matthew 4 to see the first occurrence of the word 'Devil' as a reference to Satan (read 4:1). This is the Greek word *diabolos*. It occurs 38 times in the NT and is translated 'devil' 35 times. Twice this word is translated as false accuser and once as slanderer.

So we need to look at the meaning of this word, or name. The word *diabolos* comes from two words. First, the preposition *dia*, usually meaning *through*, and *ballo*, to *throw* or *cast*. Colin Brown's Dictionary of NT words says it means to

throw over, or divide, set at variance, accuse, bring charges, slander etc... The basic meaning seems to be to slander. Funk and Wagnall's dictionary says that slander is, "An oral statement of false, malicious, or defamatory nature, tending to damage another's reputation, means of livelihood etc..."

Now I see a difference between gossip and slander. It is my own view that gossip in its normal usage is not wrong. Gossip is simply informal chatty talk. It can be refreshing. But when this informal chatty talk becomes malicious and is used to subtly tear down another's character, it has become slander, and it is slander that is so very bad. It is so bad as to constitute one of the main names of Satan in the NT, the name 'Devil'. As a matter of fact, the Hebrews, when they translated the OT into Greek, with only a few exceptions translated the Hebrew *Sawtawn*, as *diabolos*, or devil.

And maybe, right here, this morning, God wants to speak to us. He spoke to me through this study. So let us look at several passages where this word is used but it is not used for the devil. We begin with 1 Timothy 3:11 (see also 2 Tim. 3:2-3; Tit. 2:1-3). To slander people is to do that for which the devil is named.

So the two terms, Satan and Devil are used to refer to that anointed cherub, Lucifer, that fell and became the prince of demons. There are numerous other titles for the devil and they give us a very good idea of his occupation. He is referred to as the god of this age (2 Cor. 4:4); the prince of this world (Jn. 12:31); the prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2); the ruler of darkness (Eph. 6:12); a dragon, (Rev. 12:7); the deceiver (Rev. 20:10); Apollyon, or the destroyer (Rev. 9:11); Beelzebub, or the prince of demons (Matt. 12:24); Beliel, vileness or ruthlessness (2 Cor. 6:15); the wicked one (Matt. 13:38); the Tempter (1 Thess. 3:5); the accuser of the brethren (Rev. 12:10); an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14); a liar, or even the father of lies (John

8:44); a murderer (John 8:44); the enemy (Matt. 13:39); a roaring lion (1 Pet. 5:8).

3. Demon

Now let us consider the word 'demon'. We have already learned that demons are fallen angels and that they are spirit beings, but what does the word 'demon' mean? It may surprise you to know that the word 'demon' never occurs in the KJV of the Bible. But, it does occur in the original language, but even there, only 5 times. Four times it refers to demons, plural (see Matt. 8:31). The KJV translates the word 'demons' as 'devils'. The NKJV correctly translates it as *demon* or *demons*.

I might add here that the significance of the term 'demon' is used in the common translation, "demon possession". The original word used for this phrase occurs 13 times in the NT. We will be looking more at that later. But in this use, the idea of demons becomes much more prominent than in the word 'demon' itself.

Now, the word *daimon* in the original language comes from the word *daio*, meaning to distribute fortunes. The online Bible says it may refer to a god or goddess of inferior deity. I have pondered this question: could it be that demons are the ones Lucifer promised to distribute his glory with when he became like God? Maybe.

So, the terms 'Satan' and 'Devil' refer to the fallen angel Lucifer who is also the prince of demons. He is over all the demonic realm. The term 'demon' refers to any of those angels that joined him in his rebellion against God, which we think refers to 1/3 of the original angelic host.

C. What Is The Task of Demons?

The next question we want to consider is what the task of demons is. To answer this question it would be helpful if we knew what the goal of Satan is, as he is the head of all demons and they get their assignments, ultimately from him. The question, what

is the devil's ultimate goal, is at once a simple question to answer and a complicated one. Satan's goal and thus the task of demons is to destroy God's work, wherever and whatever it is. So John writes in John 10:10, "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

The complicated part of our question is this: When Lucifer sinned and became Satan, did he realize his plan had failed and in vengeance he now seeks to reek as much havoc in God's kingdom as possible, and take as many with him as possible; or did he have a plan by which he thought he in actual fact could win?

I could find very little information that dealt with this question. Since Lucifer was an angel of very high rank, and we would thus conclude that he was a very intelligent angel, it would seem hardly reasonable that he did not have a plan by which he, even to this day, thinks he can win. Gordon Lindsay, in his book, "Satan and His Kingdom of Darkness" takes the view that he had a plan by which he thought he could win. He writes, "A wicked being, especially one as calculating as Lucifer, does not commit a crime unless he sees some hope for success. How could this archangel expect to be successful in a venture which challenged the Creator for His throne?" And again he writes, "It is certain that the devil's rebellion was not born from the impulse of the moment, but was the result of a coldly calculated and carefully thought out plan" (15). And to quote him once more he says, "It is evident that Satan had reason to believe there was at least some possibility his plot would succeed, for otherwise he would hardly have attempted it" (17).

Well, I would agree that Satan must have thought he could win. If Ezekiel 28 does speak of Satan, and we think it does, then we do know that he wanted to exalt his throne above the stars of God. He wanted to sit in the most exalted position and he wanted to be like the most High. It would seem most probable to me that he wanted to be like God in that he too wanted to be glorified. Now I mentioned previously that the original name 'daimon', or demon as we have it, comes

from a word meaning *to distribute fortunes*. It was also used for gods or goddesses of inferior deity. Could it be that Satan deceived those angels that fell with him by telling them that he would distribute his fortunes, his glory, with them and they would be gods under him? It is possible.

And we then ask, just how did Satan plan to win? I think that, at least, is no secret in Scripture. He would do it through that matter the Bible calls sin. If he could get any angels to sin with him, they would belong to him. And then later, when God created man, he thought that any person he could get to sin would belong to him. God could not have sinners glorify him, either angel or man, and Satan loved sin and would get angels and man to sin and thus he would get glory from them. So, sin would be his primary attack. Just as righteousness and holiness and godliness in man glorifies God Almighty, so he would gain glory through man's sin. And he knew that if he could get free moral agents to sin, they would love sin, and they do.

So let me take you to a most interesting passage in light of the thought of getting glory through sin in, Philippians 3 (read 17-19). Now note the clause in verse 19, "...whose glory is in their shame..." In the context of these verses I believe Paul was writing against the false teachings of Gnosticism. The liberal view they taught was that you could live in sin and still be a fine Christian. In my notes on verse 19 I wrote many years ago I said this, "I want you to notice in verse 19 that liberalism is described as having **a painful end, a pitiful god, a perverted glory and an pathetic mindset.**" Here is a perverted glory.

I think it would be beyond question to say that Satan counterfeits and contradicts everything about God. He counterfeits glory. Instead of getting glory from good, as God does; he gets glory from evil. Let me give you a present day picture of this perverted glory. Take for example a gay pride parade. Once homosexuality was called Sodomy, now it is called gay. I think the word gay means people who are uninhibited by what is viewed as wrong. Once this life style was viewed as so shameful that some years

ago passages like Romans 1 would not be read in a mixed audience. Those who sinned to this extent did absolutely everything to hide the shame. But the word 'pride' in gay pride means no shame. They are sodomites who have no shame. In years past, those who practiced this sin hid it behind the heaviest doors. Then, as society progressively lost its morals, these people slowly began to come out of their closet and to show their faces. And then, to my utter amazement, they began to glory in their shame. President Obama has endorsed it. Queen Elizabeth has endorsed it. The Pope has endorsed it. He said, "Who am I to say its wrong?" And so today homosexuals are glorying in their shame. This is a perverted glory! Now think of this, if the devil should win and thus avoid hell, that is what eternity would be like. Satan and all his followers would glory in shameful living. This, at least in part, I see as his goal, and thus the goal of all demons.

Now consider this. Before Satan sinned he had been in the presence of God. He knew the glory that God had coming. He knew that if anyone would truly learn who God is and what He is like, he would immediately glorify Him. Then pride set in and Satan wanted glory too. He wanted to be like the most High. And when pride set in, it would seem to me that he wanted to be glorified. He wanted to be like the most High. Only to be glorified, he could not do it in the ways that God is glorified. If he caused people to be good and righteous and holy, God would get the glory. So he had to find another way, and he did. It is almost unbelievable that someone would think he could win by this horrible way, but it seems the devil did. He would win through sin. And so, on the exact reverse of how it is with God, when people sin and are prideful and live against everything in God, they would thus bring glory to him, and this is what he wanted. Here is the counterfeit, glory through sin rather than righteousness.

And so, in the quote I gave earlier of Gordon Lindsay where he said, "Demons are as different in their individual capacities, their habits, their ways, as human beings are..." he continues like this: "- with this exception: Their objective is consistently malevolent, and they invariably seek the ruin of the

souls of those whom they seduce and deceive" (56, see also 61).

To ruin souls, they must get man to sin. And when we sin, then we hate exposure and we hide. The nature of sin is to hide. And thus we are destroyed in sin. But Scripture says, "Whatsoever doth make manifest is light." When we recognize our sin and who God is, then we must repent and the great dread of repentance keeps many out of heaven. They refuse to own up to sin.

C. What Are The Primary Tools of Demons?

Now let me mention two of the greatest tools Satan and demons use to get us. Some time ago we learned how to fish for Sockeye Salmon in lakes. I am sure there are more methods. But we learned to use a large flasher, about 3 inches by 10 inches. This lure is considerably active in the water and catches the attention of the fish. But this lure is not the hook, nor was the hook on the flasher. It followed about 2 feet behind the flasher. The hook was a single small red hook with no bait. Just a small red hook. The flasher got the fish's attention but it only drew their attention to the red hook and this little hook is what caught them.

Satan and demons have two main flashers they use. With this they draw us in and then we get hooked by sin. These two flashers are the world and the flesh. So let us consider the world as one of the flashers of demons. Go with me to 1 John 5 (read 18-21). Before we go further, let me just mention that when it says whoever is born of God does not sin, the verb tenses indicate that the idea is that of going on sinning, continuing in sin. The believer is to overcome sin one by one. And if we keep on dealing with sin, the wicked one cannot touch us. That is one reason I stress again and again, "Do right! Live right." But now notice verse 19 again (read). Here is Satan's flasher # 1. The world.

So let me explain what the word *world* means. It does not usually refer to the earth in the NT. It refers to the sum of lost mankind. There are in the one sense only two kinds of people on earth; the saved

and the lost. And the lost make up the world. That is why the Bible says, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world." In a message I did some years ago I said that when we have to be in the latest fads, and we are 'in' and we listen to the music of the world it is our flag flown high which says, "I love the world."

In John 17:11 Jesus said that we as believers, are in the world, but in 15:19 He said we are not of the world. So, as Christians we are *in* the world, but we are not to be *of* the world. Romans 12:1-2 says that we are not to be conformed to this world. That conformity speaks to our external appearance and being fashioned according to the dictates of the world. Did you know that most of the fashion designers are gays? David Cloud, in his book, "Dressing for The Lord" quotes Tara Subkoff as saying that fashion, 'Is a gay man's profession.'" He quotes Melanie McDonagh, a fashion reporter as saying, "I asked a couple of fashionista friends of mine to name a single major heterosexual male designer ,and they were stumped" (18). Who encouraged women to wear tight jeans? Calvin Klein. He lists these homosexual fashioners: Christian Dior; Calvin Klein; Gianni Versace; Yves Saint Laurent; John Galliano; Paul Smith; Vivienne Westwood; Giorgio Armani; Tommy Hilfiger, and Mike Jeffries. Did you know that they are a very ungodly lot? Did you know that many of us like what these ungodly people design and wear it?

Did you also know that the same holds true for music? Were you aware that behind some of what we wear and listen to is demonic? You would be shocked if you read some of what I have read already. The songs of some musicians, by their own admission, are dictated to them and we know by whom. Let me quote from an article on music by David Cloud. "**ANGUS YOUNG**, lead guitarist for **AC-DC**, is called the "guitar demon"; and he admitted that something takes control of the band during their concerts: "... it's like I'm on automatic pilot. By the time we're halfway through the first number someone else is steering me. I'm just along for the ride. I become possessed when I get on stage" (*Hit Parader*, July 1985, p. 60). Here is another quote from Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones, "We receive our songs by inspiration,

like at a seance", (*Rolling Stone*, May 5, 1977, p. 55).

Now notice 1 John 5 and verse 19. The KJV says the whole world lies in wickedness. But it could be translated that the whole world lies in the wicked one. The NKJV adds the idea of the world lying under the sway of the wicked one. The world, not the earth, but the world belongs to the devil. And this world, the devil seeks to keep in darkness. That is the characteristic of demons and of the devil. To keep the world in darkness or away from the truth, and he will use every avenue possible.

The second flasher the devil uses is the flesh, or the lusts or desires of the flesh. I cannot spend much time on this. Let me recommend to you four messages I did on the flesh that you can get on sermonaudio.com/lhec. The series is simply called, "The flesh." The term 'flesh' can refer to more than one thing and the context must determine which usage is meant. But when we speak of the world, the flesh, and the devil as man's enemies; in my view the word 'flesh' refers to our sin nature. I think that when we speak of the 'self life', the 'sin nature', or the flesh, we are speaking of that which constitutes what we call the sin nature in us.

Romans 7:18 says of the flesh, "For I know that in me (that is in my flesh) nothing good dwells..." And Romans 8:8 says, "So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God." So go with me to Galatians 5 to see how the flesh manifests itself (read 19-21). When the term *flesh* is used like this, I believe it refers to our fallen sin nature. And our fallen sin nature craves such things as are listed here. We are bent on sinning. And God uses these things as flashers and then we take the hook and we sin, and we are caught.

And then listen to what LE Maxwell has to say about the flesh in his book, 'Crowded to Christ'. He writes, "The flesh has almost infinite forms. It may not always appear devilish, deceitful, and hateful; on the contrary, it may be cultured, educated, refined, and religious. In fact it may so play possum as to lead you to think that it is dead. It thrives in any soil, and under the shades of earthly sorrow

as well as in the sunshine of prosperity. Whatever its behavior, however, it is still changeless flesh, 'unimprovable, incorrigible, incurable...There remains then no remedy but that which God has provided - condemnation, crucifixion, death with Christ' (Mantle). The only trademark becoming the flesh is the death mark of the Cross" (pg. 70).

So the two major areas through which Satan and demons work on us is the world and the flesh. We do well to learn what these are and who it is that is behind them in order to stand against the wiles of the devil.

CONCL: So, let us conclude. We have considered that the name 'Satan' means adversary or opponent. That is what he is to God and all that live godly. Then we saw that the name 'Devil' basically means slanderer. I think the idea is to overthrow someone by slander, demeaning their character. We must ever be on guard against this. Then we looked at the term 'demon'. We saw that it comes from a word meaning to distribute fortunes, and that it was used for lesser gods.

Then we looked at what the task of demons is and it is basically to destroy man and I recommended that Satan wanted man's glory and he sought to gain it through sin. We looked at Satan's two great tools, two great flashers, the world and the flesh. It takes much time in the Word of God to learn to recognize these two things but it will change any Christian's life if he or she does.

With this basic understanding of how Satan and demons came into existence and the meanings of some key terms used for them, and what their aims are and the basic ways of how they operate, I want to next take us through a complete history of demons and to what Scripture says lies in the future for them. We will have to skim over that but I think it will help us put a lot of things in perspective. It will help us get a broad view of the work of Satan and demons.