



MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

Four Satanic Schemes

Bible Reading: Eph. 6:11; Genesis 3:1-7

[Watch LIVESTREAM here at 10am](#)

[Join our post-sermon discussion on Zoom at 11am](#)

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- “Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the schemes of the devil.” (Eph. 6:11; CSB)

I. Who Is The Devil? Who Is Satan? (Matt. 6:13; 13:19)

- “Pray like this: ‘Our Father in heaven...do not bring us into temptation, but *deliver us from the evil one.*’” (Matt. 6:9, 13)
 - “Evil is real & powerful...What is more, ‘evil’ is more than the sum total of all evil impulses & actions...[These] forces of destruction & malevolence...[have been] personified [under] the name of Satan, the Accuser. “The Satan,” “the Evil One,” is not equal & opposite to God; but “he,” or “it,” is a potent force, opposed to God’s good creation, & particularly to the human beings whom God wishes to put in authority over his world. If all this were not so, the final petition in the Lord’s Prayer [–“*deliver us from evil,*” or “*from the evil one,*”–] would be an unnecessary anti-climax.”
- A. God’s enemy & opposer of God’s good purposes – “*The enemy...is the devil...*” (Matt. 13:39)
 - B. The devil (the slanderer)
 - “The devil (Greek) & Satan (Heb.) describe a legal opponent, an accuser at law.” ‘The devil *Diabolos* (Gk.) (‘slanderer, accuser’) [Often] with the definite article indicating the one who tempts/accuses. Greek (*diabolos*) commonly translates Hebrew *satan* (“Satan”) in the [Greek OT]. He is God’s supreme adversary [ESV]
 - C. The satan (the adversary)
 - “Jesus specifically stated that the devil has nothing to do with the truth because there is no truth in him, & he is a liar & the father of lies (John 8:44). In fact, John identifies the devil as Satan who...deceives the whole world (Rev. 12:9; 20:2).

II. Why Do We Need To Be Aware? (Eph. 6:11; 2 Cor. 2:11)

- “So that we may not be taken advantage of by Satan. For we are *not ignorant of his schemes*.” (2 Cor. 2:11)
 - A. Schemes (Greek: ‘methodia’)
 - B. Not being ignorant to his schemes (2 Cor. 2:11)
 - “Truth of every kind makes free, while lies bind up in bonds. Ignorance also binds up, because it gives ground to Satan.” – Jessie Penn-Lewis

III. Four Satanic Schemes in Genesis 3 (Gen. 3:1-6, 13)

- A. **Device #1: Disguise** (Gen. 3:1; Rev. 12:9; Matt. 7:15; 2 Cor. 2:14; 11:14)
 - “Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals...” (Gen. 3:1)
 - “...the ancient serpent, who is called the devil & Satan, the one who deceives the whole world.” (Rev. 12:9)
 - Disguise Painting sin with virtue’s colors –
 - a. Pride: *he presents...under the...notion of neatness and cleanliness*
 - b. Covetousness: *he presents as good business*
 - c. Drunkenness: *he presents as good fellowship*
- B. **Device #2: Deception (Jn. 8:44; Gen. 3:1-6, 13)**
 - “The devil...was a murderer from the beginning & does not stand in the truth, because there’s no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks from his own nature, because he is a liar & the father of lies” (Jn. 8:44)
 - **Deception:** By lessening the seriousness of sin
 - **Deception:** To present God as [only] being full of mercy
- C. **Device #3: Sowing Doubt (Gen. 3:2-6)**
 1. Sowing doubt in God’s word—“The serpent said, ‘Did God really say...?’” (Gen. 3:1b)
 2. Sowing doubt in God’s motive
 3. Note: The serpent directly contradicts what God said, [and also] presents the tree’s fruit as something worth obtaining: [asserting that] by eating it, the couple will be like God...The irony...[is that] the couple is made in God’s image of God (1:26-27). In this way they are already like God. [ESV]
- D. **Device #4: The Devil’s device to ‘present the bait & hide the hook’**
 - “Present the ‘golden cup’ & hide the ‘poison’...by this device [Satan] deceived Adam & Eve (Gen. 3:4-5) Here’s the ‘bait, the sweet, the pleasure’...But he hides the ‘hook,’—shame, Wrath, & loss that would certainly follow.”
- E. The natural consequences (Gen. 3:7)