

The Schemes of the Devil

Ephesians 6:11,16 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil... 16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

2 Corinthians 2:11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Here is a sampling of what the New Testament tells us about the schemes and purposes of the Devil in his opposition to believers. The Devil...

- Encourages Disobedience to the Conviction of the Holy Spirit
 - o Acts 5:3 (John 8:44)
- Destroys the Flesh
 - o 1 Corinthians 5:5 (John 10:10; 1 Timothy 1:20)
- Takes Advantage of Unhealthy Marriages
 - o 1 Corinthians 7:5
- Makes Error Look Like Truth
 - o 2 Corinthians 11:14
- Beats the Body
 - o 2 Corinthians 12:7
- Hinders the Travel of God's People
 - o 1 Thessalonians 2:18 (Romans 1:13; 15:22)
- Perverts the Right Ways of the Lord; Turns People from the Faith
 - o Acts 13:10 (Luke 8:12; Mark 4:15)
- Takes Advantage of Sinful Living
 - o Ephesians 4:27
- Takes Advantage of Human Pride
 - o 1 Timothy 3:6
- Discredits Using One's Reputation
 - o 1 Timothy 3:7
- Persecutes, Imprisons, and Kills God's Faithful
 - o Revelation 2:10 (John 10:10)
- Takes Advantage of the Neglect of One's God-given Role
 - o 1 Timothy 5:14

What to Do?

- Resist the devil with a humble heart submitted to God and the devil will flee.
 - o James 4:6-10
 - o 1 Peter 5:5-11
- Be encouraged that Jesus has prayed for us.
 - o John 17:15
 - o Luke 22:32
 - o Romans 8:26-27,34
- Study God's Word
 - o 2 Timothy 2:15
- Obey the Commands of God
 - o 1 John 2:7-10

Please Note: In many cases, only the key verse(s) pertaining to the subject at hand is cited. Therefore, as you study the above, please take the time to understand the context and surrounding verses which will greatly enhance your learning and render a more accurate understanding.