

# 'SATAN' IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

1. What did you discover about 'satan' from the OLD TESTAMENT based on the OT study sheet?

Is 'satan' a Hebrew, Greek or English word? \_\_\_\_\_

Meaning of the word: \_\_\_\_\_

Are there good 'satans'? \_\_\_\_\_

Can 'satan' be an angel? \_\_\_\_\_

Can 'satan' be a human? \_\_\_\_\_



(Two helpful online programs for Bible study - <https://mysword.info> or <https://www.olivetree.com>)

## WHO IS SATAN IN THE NEW TESTAMENT?

2. Is 'satan' used of humans in the New Testament? See Mark 8:33 (parallel account in Matthew 16:23)

\_\_\_\_\_

- Why is Peter being an adversary to Jesus in this incident? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- What was Jesus' rebuke to Peter? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## WHO TEMPTED JESUS IN THE WILDERNESS?

*"And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered."*

Luke 4:1-13

3. What important event had just occurred in Jesus' life before he was 'driven into the wilderness' and what did he receive? Luke 3:22 & 4:1 \_\_\_\_\_

(This incident is also recorded in Matthew 4:1-11 & Mark 1:9-13)

4. What does the NT tell us about the way in which Jesus was tempted?

Hebrews 4:14-15 \_\_\_\_\_

5. How are we tempted?

James 1:14-15 \_\_\_\_\_

Mark 7:21-23 \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 7:14-24 \_\_\_\_\_

6. If you were suddenly given God's Holy Spirit power, what temptations might occur to you?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What were the three temptations that Jesus faced?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Did Jesus face these same 3 temptations again later in his life?

Matthew 14:15-23 \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 4:28-31 \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 26:52-54 \_\_\_\_\_

John 6:14-16 \_\_\_\_\_

9. Was it necessary for these temptations to be given by a supernatural being? Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Who could the 'satan' or 'adversary' be in Luke 4? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## 'SATAN' IN PARABLES

### The Sower

*"And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts."* Mark 4:15

- In Mark's account, the OT Satan ('adversary') is the one who takes away the word.

*"Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower. When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side."* Matthew 13:18-19

- In Matthew's account of the sower, what is the meaning of the word for 'wicked one'?

\_\_\_\_\_

*"Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved."* Luke 8:12

- In Luke's account of the sower what is the meaning of the word for 'devil'?

\_\_\_\_\_

(Note that 'satan', the 'devil' and the 'wicked one' are linked in the various accounts of this parable.)

11. What forces can cause the 'word' of God to be snatched from our hearts before it has a chance to germinate? \_\_\_\_\_

### Beelzebub

*"If Satan also be divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand? because ye say that I cast out devils through Beelzebub."* Luke 11:18

12. Who was Beelzebub at the time of Jesus? (You may want to Google the historical background)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. How does Jesus show the ridiculousness of the Jewish ruler's accusation, without directly challenging their superstition? \_\_\_\_\_

## HOW DOES SATAN 'ENTER', 'POSSESS' OR 'TEMPT' PEOPLE?

### Judas the Betrayer

*"Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve."* Luke 22:3

*"And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly."* John 13:27

14. What were some of the events that led up to Judas choosing to betray Jesus? And how might these experiences have affected his heart?

Mark 14:1-11 \_\_\_\_\_

John 12:1-10 \_\_\_\_\_

15. What are some possible meanings for the expression 'satan entered into' Judas?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Peter

16. Were there other *adversaries* working behind the scenes to encourage a betrayal?

Luke 22:1-5 (See also John 11:45-53) \_\_\_\_\_

17. Were any other disciples at risk of betraying Jesus Christ?

Luke 22:31-34 \_\_\_\_\_

18. In Luke 22:34, what did Jesus know was going to happen to Peter that very night because of his fear of other human beings in positions of power? See verse 54-62

\_\_\_\_\_

19. Jesus says to Peter, *"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you:"* Luke 22:31. What group of human *adversaries* were hoping one of the disciples would betray their Master?

\_\_\_\_\_

### Ananias and Sapphira

*"But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Whilst it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God."* Acts 5:3-4

20. How does Peter clarify his words to Ananias in Acts 5:3, with Acts 5:4?

\_\_\_\_\_

21. What similarities are there between Acts 5:4 and James 1:13-14?

\_\_\_\_\_

22. How can we understand the way in which satan 'fills' our hearts?

\_\_\_\_\_

## In Marriage

*“Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.”* (ESV)  
1 Corinthians 7:5

23. Why might the practice of abstinence lead to human weakness?

---

24. Who might be the ‘adversary’ that tempts us? \_\_\_\_\_

---

25. What did Jesus say about the battle with our nature in Matthew 26:41?

---

## THE ENEMY OF THE CHURCH

Adversaries to our spiritual growth and development can be:

- our own natures – Romans 7:14-24 (sin that dwells within me); James 1:14-15 (own desires)
- a friend – Mark 8:33 (Peter)
- someone who hates/betrays us – John 13:1-30 (Judas)
- or a group of people dedicated to stopping the progress of Christianity – Luke 22:1-5; 31 (Satan hath desired to have you)

*“Romans 16:20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.”* Romans 16:20

26. What persecutions might the believers in ROME have faced?

---

27. What could God have done to relieve that persecution?

---

28. Why is significant that the relief is described as “bruising”? See Genesis 3:15

---

*“Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us.”* 1 Thessalonians 2:18

29. Who or what might have ‘hindered’ Paul from his desire to visit the believers?

---

30. How would stopping Paul from visiting believers be adversarial to Paul’s ministry?

---

*“I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.”* Revelation 2:9

31. A synagogue is usually associated with what religious group?

---

32. Were there enemies (adversaries) of Jesus who were Jewish?

---

33. To what could a 'synagogue of satan' be referring in this passage?

---

*"I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth."* Revelation 2:13 – The Lord's letter to Pergamos

34. What evidence is there in this verse that Christians were persecuted in Pergamos?

---

35. How could 'satan's seat' be located in the Roman city of Pergamos?

---

*"But what I do, that I will do, that I may cut off occasion from them which desire occasion; that wherein they glory, they may be found even as we. For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."* 2 Cor. 11:12-15

36. What are some of the characteristics of those who were opposing the work of Paul?

---

37. Why did they 'pretend' to be true apostles of Christ?

---

38. How does this make them 'ministers' of satan?

---

---

*"For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."* 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12

39. What phrases in this passage are consistent with the idea of 'satan' being an adversary or enemy of the Church of Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

---

40. Are there churches today who claim to have power, or do miracles? And are their followers deceived by 'lying wonders'? \_\_\_\_\_

---

## **DISFELLOWSHIP FROM THE BODY OF BELIEVERS**

*"To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus."* 1 Corinthians 5:5

*"Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme."* 1 Timothy 1:20

41. If a believer has chosen to disregard the commands of Christ and live in a way that is against Christian standards, what consequences might be effective in helping them come to repentance?

---

---

42. What does the Greek word for 'deliver' mean, using Strong's Concordance?

---

---

---

43. If Satan is a supernatural being with a desire to lure us away from God, how would delivering someone to Satan be effective in bringing them back to Christ, or teaching them not to blaspheme?

---

---

---

44. If Satan is our own desires, or a human adversary that opposes God, how will 'delivering him to Satan' be effective in bringing them back to Christ, or teaching them *not* to blaspheme?

---

---

---

45. Is the parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15, a story of someone being 'delivered to satan'?

---

---

## **SICKNESS**

46. What happened in Genesis 3 that resulted in God putting a curse on His 'very good' creation?

---

---

47. What are the 'wages of sin'? Romans 6:20-23

---

*"And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" Luke 13:16*

48. If sin leads to death, then sickness and disease is also a result of sin entering the world – the curse. How does this help to understand the connection between 'satan' and 'sickness'? See Rom. 8:19-23.

---

---

49. Will there be time in the future when this curse will be removed? 1 Corinthians 15:50-56.

---

---

50. What was the promise made in Genesis 3:15 that related to Jesus?

---

---

51. How was this fulfilled in his death and resurrection? Hebrews 2:14-15

---

---

52. If Satan 'the adversary' refers to the afflictions of a mortal, dying nature, which can impede our abilities to serve God fully, how do the following passages make sense?

*"For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its*

*bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.” Romans 8:19-23*

---

*“And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. “For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.” 2 Corinthians 12:7-9*

---

*“And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.” Luke 10:18*

---

53. Taking into account that the disciples were healing people from the effects of sin, how did Jesus see this as ‘satan fall as lightning from heaven’?

---

## **THE INFLUENCE OF SATAN RESTRAINED IN THE MILLENIUM**

When Jesus returns to establish God’s Kingdom on earth, he will reign in righteousness and justice over all the nations who survive Armageddon. The immortalized saints will help him rule and administer righteous judgement. As such the effects of sinfulness - lust, pride, corruption, opposition to good, slander, sickness and disease will be mitigated. Although there will still be a mortal population on the earth for 1000 years, the influence of sin will be restrained. In symbolic language the Apostle John is inspired to write about this in the following way:

*“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.” Revelation 12:9*

54. Why are the dragon, the serpent, the Devil and Satan all linked together in this passage? In what way are they the same?

---

---

*“And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,” Revelation 20:2*

55. For the Millennial, 1000-year reign of Jesus Christ on the earth, how will this adversarial, slanderous system be restrained? \_\_\_\_\_

---

*“And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,” Revelation 20:7*

56. What do you think it means that this adversarial, slanderous system will be loosed?

---

57. Why will God and Jesus allow mankind one more test to see who they will follow?

---

58. Since Revelation 20 prophesies that many nations will rebel against Jesus at the end of the 1000 years, and even come up to Jerusalem thinking they can overthrow his government, what will this final test indicate about human nature?

---

---

## **WHY ARE THE DEVIL AND SATAN SO PREVALENT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT, BUT NOT IN THE OLD?**

In the Old Testament, God had to continually prove that He was real and that His power was far superior to the idols people had set up in His place.

It was God against idols. Isaiah 45

In the New Testament, the ultimate battle that Jesus had to face in his life and death was against his own nature, friends that tried to oppose his mission, the effects of sin and suffering in other people, enemies that slandered his work, and a group of powerful 'religious' rulers that wanted to put him and his followers to death.

It was Jesus against the Devil and Satan. Hebrews 2:14-15; Romans 5:12-21

Through Jesus we sing the victory song "*Oh, Death where is thy sting? Oh, Grave where is thy victory?! The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*" 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

This is the fall of "satan", accomplished by the work of Jesus.