

3 Things the Devil Cannot Do

Introduction:

- I. The devil is not a figment of our imagination, nor is he a mythical being that man has conjured up in his own mind. The devil is real. If you believe in the Bible, you must believe in the reality of Satan for inspired writers constantly spoke of his reality.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ESV

- II. We are engaged at this time in a series of lessons that center around the devil. We are not approaching this subject from a theological perspective. In other words, we are not trying to answer questions such as where did the devil come from or what are the attributes of the devil and so forth, but rather we are approaching the subject from a practical standpoint. We have looked practically at 3 ways the devil will attack. We have examined 3 things the devil wants us to believe, 3 things the devil wants us to do and 3 things the devil doesn't want us to do. Now in this lesson, I want to look at 3 things the devil cannot do.

Lesson:

- I. **The Devil Cannot Keep the Willing from Obtaining Salvation.**

As much as Satan wants all men to be lost, God wants all men to be saved.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ESV

As a result of this God has set up a system of salvation whereby all men can be saved (**Rom. 4:12-16; 10:5ff**). Because of the love of God, and the power that Jesus has to condemn sin in the flesh, anyone who chooses can escape the bondage of sin (**Rom. 6:7-18**).

Now we must be careful because the devil does have the power to deceive. He cannot keep the willing from salvation, but he can deceive the unsaved into believing that they are already saved. If you want to make sure that you are saved, look into God's mirror, that is, the Bible, and be sure that you have followed God's plan of salvation (**Rom. 1:16; Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16**).

- II. **The Devil Cannot Take Eternal Life away from Us.**

Once we are in Christ, we are secure as long as we want to be (**Rom. 8:1; Jn. 10:24-29**). Now again, while Satan cannot steal away our salvation, we can live in such a way

as to voluntarily give it up. Don't let the devil deceive you into thinking that salvation is something that can't be lost. That Calvinistic teaching is nothing but a lie from the devil.

Galatians 5:4

You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. ESV

1 Corinthians 10:12

Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ESV

If we continue to obey Jesus the devil is defenseless (**2 Pet. 1:10; Jude 24**).

III. The Devil Cannot Make Us Disobey God.

As long as we are Christians, the devil will try to turn us away from God by causing us to disobey. The devil will do all he can to influence us to make bad decisions that lead to sin. Let's not forget that sin separates us from God (**Isa. 59:1-2**). But the truth is we don't have to sin. Sin is a choice and God has created us in such a way that we have free will and so we have the ability to choose how we are going to live.

Josh 24:15

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. KJV

- **The devil can't make you forsake the assembling of the saints.**
- **The devil can't make you gossip.**
- **The devil can't make you dress immodestly.**
- **The devil can't make you hold grudges.**
- **The devil can't make you live immorally.**

This is precisely why in the last day we are all going to have to give an account of ourselves (**Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10**).

Conclusion:

So then, there are some things the devil simply cannot do. Do you want to know something else he can't do? The devil cannot stop the Lord from coming back. Jesus, ladies and gentlemen, is coming (**Jn. 14:1-2**). Do you know what is going to happen when Jesus comes back? All that are in the graves are going to rise up (**Jn. 5:27-29**). Then is going to come that time of reckoning when we will have to give account of ourselves in judgment (**Acts 17:30-31; 1 Cor. 15:24**). The devil doesn't want Jesus to come back but He is coming nevertheless. Are you ready?