

“Liar, Liar...”
John 8:44

I. Satan’s position before God is as an enemy.

(Numbers 22:22; Luke 4:5-6; John 16:11; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4; Ephesians 2:2; Revelation 12:1-17; 20:1-3, 7-10)

II. Satan’s chief goal toward man is murder.

(1 Peter 5:8-9; Luke 22:31)

III. Satan’s primary weapon to accomplish his goal is deception.

(Genesis 3:1-6; Matthew 4:1-11; Ephesians 6:10-12; 2 Corinthians 2:11; 11:3-4; 14; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12; 1 Timothy 2:13-14; 1 John 4:2-3)

Scripture References and Notes

Revelation 12:1-17

¹ Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. ² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth. ³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. ⁴ His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. ⁵ She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. ⁶ Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days. ⁷ And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. ⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. ¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. ¹¹ And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. ¹² Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time." ¹³ Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *Child*. ¹⁴ But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the

wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. ¹⁵ So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. ¹⁶ But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. ¹⁷ And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

devil (διάβολος [diabolos])

- pertaining to engagement in slander, *slanderous*
- one who engages in slander; *the adversary/devil*
- slanderous, accusing falsely
- (adj. used often as a noun), slanderous; with the article: the Slanderer (par excellence), the Devil.
- (from *diabállō*, "to slander, accuse, defame")
- properly, a slanderer; a *false accuser*; unjustly criticizing to *hurt (malign)* and *condemn to sever a relationship*.
- [(*diábolos*) is the root of the English word, "Devil" (see also *Webster's Dictionary*).
- in *secular* Greek means "backbiter," i.e. an accuser, calumniator (slanderer).
- (*diábolos*) is literally someone who "*casts through*," i.e. making charges that bring down (destroy). Satan is *used* by God in this plan – as a predictable wind-up toy, playing out his evil nature.]

Σατανᾶς (Satanas)

- the adversary, Satan, the devil
- an adversary, Satan.
- From the Hebrew word (Satan [שָׂטָן]), meaning adversary.

Numbers 22:22

Then God's anger was aroused because he went, and the Angel of the LORD took His stand in the way as an adversary against him. And he was riding on his donkey, and his two servants *were* with him.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

³ But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

John 16:11

...of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Ephesians 2:2

...in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience...

Luke 4:5-6

⁵ Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. ⁶ And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; **for this has been delivered to me**, and I give it to whomever I wish.

Revelation 20:1-3, 7-10

¹ Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; ³ and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he

should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

⁷ Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number *is* as the sand of the sea. ⁹ They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰ The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet *are*. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

1 Peter 5:8-9

⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

Luke 22:31

And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift *you* as wheat.

1 John 4:2-3

² By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, ³ and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

¹ Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ² not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. ³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. ⁵ Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? ⁶ And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. ⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is taken out of the way. ⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. ⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹² that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Ephesians 6:10-12

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the **wiles** of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

Ephesians 6:11 (NASB)

Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the **schemes** of the devil.

schemes (μεθοδεΐα [methodeia])

- scheming, craftiness
- craft, deceit
- (a way of search after something, an inquiry; a method), scheming, craftiness, deceit.

- *methodeía* (the root of the English term, "method") – properly, a predictable (pre-set) *method* used in *organized evil-doing (well-crafted trickery)*.
- [*(methodeía)* comes from *methodos*, a "way of searching after something, an inquiry; a method), scheming, craftiness" (Souter).]
- <https://biblehub.com/greek/3180.htm>
- 2 Occurrences

wile – (1828 Webster's dictionary)

- A trick or stratagem practiced for ensnaring or deception; a sly, insidious artifice.
- To deceive; to beguile.

Scheme – (1828 Webster's dictionary)

noun

1. A plan; a combination of things connected and adjusted by design; a system.
2. A project; a contrivance; a plan of something to be done; a design.
3. A representation of the aspects of the celestial bodies.

Verb

- To plan; to contrive; to form a plan; to contrive.

2 Corinthians 2:11

...lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Genesis 3:1-6

¹ Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'" ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; ³ but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' " ⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

2 Corinthians 11:3-4

³ But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. ⁴ For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or *if* you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted-- you may well put up with it!

1 Timothy 2:13-14

¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve. ¹⁴ And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

Matthew 4:1-11

¹ Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. ³ Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." ⁴ But He answered and said, "It is written, '*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.*' " ⁵ Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: '*He shall give His angels charge over you,*' and, '*In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.*' " ⁷ Jesus said to him, "It is written again, '*You shall not tempt the LORD your God.*' " ⁸ Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed

Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, '*You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.*' " ¹¹ Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

2 Corinthians 11:14

And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

*Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures are from the New King James Version.