

We Would See Jesus: The Son of God

“He Shall Bruise Your Head”

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INTRODUCTION

At various times in the history of mankind, it appeared as if Satan was triumphant, victorious and in full control. Flooding our minds at this moment could be exact times when Satan was winning the skirmishes, but friend, never forget—Satan will LOSE the war!

From the outset, the announced purpose of our Lord coming to earth was to conquer man’s supreme enemy—Satan.

In our study we will note the following thoughts: (1) Satan, Our Enemy Is Powerful; (2) Jesus Was Triumphant in Living a Sinless Life; and (3) The Death of Christ and His Glorious Resurrection Crushed the Head (binding his power) of Satan.

SATAN, OUR ENEMY IS POWERFUL

Never, NEVER, NEVER underestimate the power, viciousness and evil nature (Matt. 13:38) of Satan! He is our adversary who stalks back and forth seeking whom he may devour (1 Pet. 5:8). The god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4) is a liar (John 8:44), a deceiver (2 Cor. 11:3) and has powerful “wiles” (Eph. 6:11) to ensnare us.

The inspired Word of God describes his characteristics, his ways, his desire to destroy. He

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endeavors to destroy all that is good and holy. He passionately wants YOU to be eternally lost in a place of indescribable torment (Luke 22:31).

Space restraints prevent an examination of the many times Satan has wielded his destructive powers as recorded in the Scriptures. Beginning in the Garden of Eden and continuing to this day, he has sought to destroy.

Satan employs every available method and means to trap, capture, ensnare you. He will strive to capture you by pleasures of sin, lust of the flesh, pride of life (1 John 2:15-17). If he can control your tongue, he wins. If he can control your thoughts in an evil direction, he wins. If he can tempt you to lust and become involved in immoral sexual activities, he wins. If he can cause discord, division, schism among followers of Christ, he wins. If he can convince you to sit back and do nothing in the work of the Lord, he wins. If he persuades you to be lazy and slothful regarding righteous works, he wins. If he can tempt you to be a discourager, he wins. Satan (and his powerful servants, 2 Cor. 11:14-15) wins. If you allow him to take your eye off the heavenly goal, he wins. If you allow him to control your life in ANY way, keep you from reaching heaven, cause you to become worldly and evil—Satan wins!

THE TEXT:

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Before our Lord came to earth, to redeem mankind, the devil had man seemingly in complete captivity, especially through the fear of death.

Let’s notice what saith the Scriptures on the specific area of our study: **“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise**

his heel" (Gen. 3:15). [All Scripture references are taken from the King James Version unless otherwise noted.]

Most believe this is the first Messianic prophecy. Note particularly that God provided us with the ultimate outcome of the warfare between Satan and mankind – the seed of woman would powerfully deal a deathblow to the head of Satan, but Satan would inflict only an insignificant wound to Jesus' heel.

Take a backward glance and we will recall, no doubt, the events surrounding this significant occasion. Satan tempted Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit. She yielded to his lying temptations. The just and faithful God kept His promise and punished Adam and Eve. Death entered the world through them (Rom. 5:12). The pronouncement of Jehovah God was, "I will put enmity between thee and the woman" and "it shall bruise thy head."

The Savior Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, came to Earth to accomplish the will of the Father:

For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. (John 6:38-40)

Jesus was victorious over Satan! He defeated and destroyed him. He delivered man from the clutches of Satan and provided salvation to all who will fully obey Him (Matt. 7:21; Heb. 5:8-9).

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took

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part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. (Heb. 2:14-15)

Man was helplessly and hopelessly lost in sin, without a means of redemption until Christ offered up His sinless blood. In Hebrews we learn,

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission...So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation...For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. (Heb. 9:22, 28; 10:4)

In Matthew's account of the gospel record, he quotes Jesus saying, "How can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house" (Matt. 12:29). Jesus came to Earth, where Satan is the prince (John 14:3), and victoriously accomplished the work of His Father (John 17:4; 19:30). In Colossians 2:14-15, Paul says Christ was triumphant over evil. Paul adds, in writing to the church at Ephesus, "When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive" (Eph. 4:8).

John records the words of Christ, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death" (Rev. 1:18).

Further, in the highly symbolic language book of Revelation, we note:

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the

dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. (Rev. 20:1-6)

As Paul closed his Roman epistle, he stated, “And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly” (Rom. 16:20).

JESUS WAS TRIUMPHANT IN LIVING A SINLESS LIFE

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son (John 3:16). God demonstrated His love to everyone—once and for all established in the death of the Son of God on the cross for sinful man (Rom. 5:8-9). He came not as a king, prince or an elite and powerful one, but as the son of a carpenter, born in a stable and laid in a

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manger. He was a servant, helping others, associating with the lowly, washing feet.

The writer of Hebrews (whom I believe to be the apostle Paul) stated,

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. (Heb. 4:14-15)

He was 100% divine. He was 100% human. I suggest we cannot fully grasp the truth found in the statement, “he was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin”! It was physically possible for the Lord to yield to temptation. It is not a “temptation” unless it is within the realm of possibility to yield to it. Our Lord possessed fleshly desires, human thoughts, needs. But the overwhelming fact is—He came to do the will of His Father (John 6:38).

Remember the scene recorded in Matthew 4 of Satan’s temptation of Jesus. He was hungry (had been without food for days), but He refused to give in to His fleshly needs. All the carnal, material things of the world which His eyes were able to behold did not distract Him. Earthly power, prestige, political prominence, etc. did not move Him off center in the least. He was focused. He was sinless!

**THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF
CHRIST CRUSHED THE HEAD
(BINDING HIS POWER) OF SATAN**

Spectators, innocent bystanders, curiosity seekers and countless others no doubt jumped to false conclusions

when Jesus drew His last breath in His human form, gave up the ghost and died (John 19:30). Even His disciples likely thought that all was over, finished. Some went back to their normal activities in life. Were they short-sighted or merely forgetful of what the Son of God had told them regarding His forthcoming resurrection on the third day?

Our minds cannot appreciate or comprehend the range of emotions which filled their hearts. Seemingly, all was lost. Jesus Christ their Savior was dead. But, on that marvelous Sunday morning the angels announced to the precious women who had come to care for His body, **“He is not here: for he is risen”** (Matt. 28:6; cf. Mark 16:6; Luke 24:6). The women quickly took this thrilling message to others. Obviously some had difficulty believing their Lord was alive again, having been raised from the dead.

Jesus appeared before dozens to confirm His victorious resurrection from the dead.

Back to our specific study – When our Lord arose from the dead, He struck a deadly blow to the head of Satan, from which he will never recover. The “god” of this world had won various “skirmishes” but this was of much greater importance.

Let us hasten to note the following: Jesus promised He would return (John 14:1-3); angels said He would come again (Rev. 1:7); the apostles wrote that Jesus would return (2 Thess. 1:7-9; Jas. 5:7; 1 John 3:2; 1 Pet. 1:13). When the Lord returns to claim His own and take the faithful to the prepared mansion (John 14:1-3), He will forever seal the devil’s doom by casting him and all his servants into the place of eternal torment prepared for him.

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. (Matt. 25:41)

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And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Rev. 20:10)

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. (Rev. 21:8)

The destiny of Satan and all who serve him is a lake of fire and brimstone, everlasting fire, torment day and night forever! While it is true that Satan has power and wiles, as "god" of this world, one day he will reap the vengeance of the Lord. He will suffer throughout all eternity in a horrible place.

Even more tragic is the fact that many countless millions, who have served him and allowed him to control their lives, passions, lusts, etc., will abide in that horrible place with Satan forever and ever! "And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 25:30). Illustrations fail to capture such horrific conditions. Words fall short to describe eternal torment. But dear friend, such will one day become a reality.

God's plan, laid in exact and minute detail before the foundation of the world, will be finalized. The redemption of obedient man will be accomplished. Satan will no longer rule as the "god" of this world. Jehovah will be on His throne and the redeemed will praise Him forever. To God be the glory!

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THIS OCCURRENCE

1. God's plan to redeem man extends in time before the world began.
2. Satan, our adversary, is the powerful god of this world and seeks to destroy.
3. God is all-powerful and the Son of God was victorious over the god of this world.
4. One day Satan will be banished to eternal torment—the place prepared for him and his servants.
5. God's people have an amazing Savior—who resides at the right hand of God.
6. Faithful followers look forward to being with our Savior throughout eternity.

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