

There's a slogan that says, *Keep Christ in Christmas*. We should have another that says, *Keep Satan Out*! Strange as it may sound, and sad as it is, the world we currently live in is ruled by the Devil. Thank God, it is not always going to be this way. In the future, our Lord is going to create a whole new world where Satan has no place (Isaiah 65:17). But for now, Satan is running "the joint." Jesus explicitly called him *the ruler of this world* (John 14:30), and the Apostle John wrote that *the whole world is under the control of the Evil One* (1 John 5:19). Realize it: This is why everything on Earth is so messed up. This is why, in today's society, there is no longer any Christ in Christmas. The Devil is in charge. And most especially, this is why the Bible warns us to *stand against the devil's schemes* and to *extinguish all the flaming arrows of the Evil One* (Ephesians 6:11, 16). The truth is, we need to know about Satan. Not to honor him. Not to raise fear of him. But to understand who our enemy is, and how he works. This will help us successfully resist his attacks as we celebrate Jesus in 2023, and more faithfully live for Jesus in 2024.

Follow God. Resist the Devil, because he will flee from you. (James 4:7)

# WHY THIS FOR CHRISTMAS?

- 1. (John 8:44) Satan never ever ...
- 2. (1 John 3:8) Satan is why the ...

## WHAT'S SATAN'S BACKGROUND STORY?

- 1. (Psalms 148:2, 5) He was ...
- 2. (Psalms 104:4) He is a ...
- 3. (Hebrews 2:6-7) He is ...
- 4. (Revelation 12:3-9) He is the ...
- 5. (John 14:30) He has turned God's world into ...

#### WHAT IS SATAN'S PLAN OF ATTACK?

- 1. (2 Corinthians 4:4) To keep unbelievers ...
- 2. (John 10:10) To wreck us by imposing ...
- 3. (2 Corinthians 11:13-14) To decieve us into following ...
- 4. (Matthew 13:37-39) To ruin churches by ...
- 5. (Matthew 7:21, 23; 25:41) To cause people to think they are saved ...
- 6. (1 Peter 5:8) To fool us into thinking ...

#### HOW'S THIS GOING TO END FOR SATAN?

- 1. (John 16:11) It ...
- 2. (Revelation 20:10) In ...

#### FOR CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS

Don't listen to ...

Don't walk in ...

Don't forget that ...

## FOR THOUGHT & TALK

- **1.** In the opening paragraph of the message notes, Pastor John mentioned about *Keeping Christ in Christmas*. Why is it important for us to have *specific plans* for doing this? What are your plans for making this happen?
- 2. Why is it important for Christians to be extra aware of Satan during the Holidays? (Hint: 1 John 3:8). How does he manage to sneak into Christmas celebrations? What are your plans for *keeping Satan out* of your Christmas?
- **3.** It is startling to realize that the Bible clearly teaches that Satan is in charge of the world, at least for now. What are some of the ways the Bible says he does this? Why do we need to know his strategies for attack.
- **4.** How and where is Satan going to meet his final doom? What is that going to look like? Sadly, who will share this destination with the Devil? As Christians, how must this impact the way we live before others, and the story we tell to others?
- 5. What are you most hoping and praying for this Christmas and New Year?

2nd in a series of messages entitled Winning the Fight of Faithfulness, from Ephesians 6:10-24. For more information about Jesus or NCFF, visit us online at <a href="https://www.ncffchurch.org">www.ncffchurch.org</a>.