

Christian Combat: Know Your Enemy! Pt. 3

Ephesians 6:11

Pastor Jason Dennett's Notes

IV. Satan's Strategy of **DECEPTION!**

- *"The first casualty when war comes, is truth." – Sen. Johnson*
- **"OPERATION OVERLORD" - June 6, 1944 - The Invasion of Normandy:**
 - In the months leading up to the invasion, the Allies worked hard at **military deception**. German coastal defences were stretched thin in 1944. Once Normandy had been chosen as the site of the invasion, it was decided to attempt to trick the Germans into thinking it was a fake invasion and that the true invasion was to be elsewhere. This was called Operation Bodyguard.*
 - In the weeks leading up to the invasion, the Allies deceived the **Germans** into thinking that the main invasion would take place at the Pas de Calais and in Norway. The deception was an industry in itself. It included dummy messages, dummy tanks in places near Dover and the south coast of England, using double agents to spread false information, dummy radio messages, and so on. General Eisenhower deceived the Germans by referring to these landings as the "initial invasion". The German embassies in neutral countries were purposefully given false intelligence about the invasion - and they believed it!!*
 - The elaborate deception was highly successful. It led Hitler to delay sending reinforcements from the Pas de Calais region for nearly seven weeks (the original plan had specified 14 days). General Omar Bradley called this deception the "single biggest hoax of the war".*
- **"OPERATION DESERT STORM" - Jan 16, 1991 - The Invasion of Kuwait:**
 - *Navy SEALs carried out special reconnaissance missions along the Kuwaiti coastline in the build up to the ground war. When allied ground operations began, in an effort to **DECEIVE** the enemy, SEALs swam ashore and planted a series of explosive devices. The detonation of these explosives, coupled with machine gun fire from Special Boat Teams, convinced the Iraqi defenders that an amphibious landing was imminent, causing them to commit men to defend the coast. This **DECEPTION** resulted in the USMC thrust, coming over land instead of from the sea, to be met with less troops than it otherwise might have.*

- In **CHRISTIAN COMBAT**, one of satan's main strategies is **DECEPTION!!**

- **Gen 3:1-5 NLT** - "The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?" "Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," the woman replied. "It's only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, 'You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.'" "You won't die!" the serpent replied to the woman. "God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil."

- **We can see that Satan is a *dangerous* creature indeed:**

- A **Lion** - 1 Pet 5:7
- A **Dragon** - Rev 12:3
- A **Destroyer** - John 10:10
- However he is **NOT** as strong/mighty as you may think he is...

At the 2009 annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience in Chicago, thousands of scientists gathered to watch magicians perform and then chat about attention, memory, and perception. They were studying the way in which our minds are deceived. Learning this, they hope to better understand, diagnose, and treat certain cognitive illnesses. Studying deception in the lab doesn't work because subjects know how the scientists are trying to fool them. To overcome this they are using magicians. Magicians are able to fool people without them knowing it. Magicians use visual tactics, props, sounds, and body movements to manipulate attention and memory. **In other words, they trick us with *misdirection*. While we are thinking about something else, they deceive us.**

- **Here are 4 facts that Satan *DECEIVES* us about regarding *HIMSELF*:**

- **Secret #1** - Satan is **LIMITED**.

Job 1:6-12 NLT - "One day the members of the heavenly court* came to present themselves before the Lord, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them. 7 "Where have you come from?" the Lord asked Satan. Satan answered the Lord, "I have been patrolling the earth, watching everything that's going on." 8 Then the Lord asked Satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is

blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil.” 9 Satan replied to the Lord, “Yes, but Job has good reason to fear God. 10 You have always put a wall of protection around him and his home and his property. You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is! 11 But reach out and take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!” 12 “All right, you may test him,” the Lord said to Satan. “Do whatever you want with everything he possesses, but don’t harm him physically.” So Satan left the Lord’s presence.”

- **Secret #2** - Satan is **O UTNUMBERED**.
 - **Rev 12:3-4 NLT** - "Then I witnessed in heaven another significant event. I saw a large red dragon with seven heads and ten horns, with seven crowns on his heads. 4 His tail swept away one-third of the stars in the sky, and he threw them to the earth."
- **Secret #3** - Satan is **C REATED**.
 - **Eye 28:12-15 NLT** - "You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and exquisite in beauty. 13 You were in Eden, the garden of God. Your clothing was adorned with every precious stone... They were given to you on the day you were created. 14 I ordained and anointed you as the mighty angelic guardian...15 "You were blameless in all you did from the day you were created until the day evil was found in you."
- **Secret #4** - Satan is **O RDAINED**.
 - **Rev 20:10 NLT** - "Then the devil, who had deceived them, was thrown into the fiery lake of burning sulfur, joining the beast and the false prophet. There they will be tormented day and night forever and ever."

Some lies are easier to detect than others. A Washington state trooper saw an intoxicated driver who, after noticing the officer, turned into a driveway and pulled into an empty garage. The driver was trying to convince the trooper this was his home. Trooper Trevor Downey had no problem detecting the false story, however, because the driver had parked his car in the trooper’s garage.

- Here are 4 major **DECEPTIONS** that Satan tells about **GOD**:
 - **INTELLECTUAL** deception... "There's no evidence for God!"
Evolution..Atheism..Humanism..Naturalism...
The Truth: Rom 1:19-20 NLT - "They know the truth about

God because he has made it obvious to them. For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God."

- **MORAL** deception... "**God doesn't care about this!**"
Fornication..Pornography..Covetousness..Gossip..MOVIES?!?
The Truth: Rom 6:23 NLT - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."
- **SPIRITUAL** deception... "**Everyone will go to Heaven!**"
 - Universalism...Hinduism...New Age..."The Shack"
 - **The Truth: Heb 9:27 NLT** - "...each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment.."
- **EMOTIONAL** deception... "**God could never love me!**"
 - Backslidden? Abortion? Murder? Fornication? Fallen Away?
 - **The Truth: Rom 5:8 NLT** - "God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners."
- **WHAT IS THE COUNTERMEASURE FOR THIS STRATEGY OF SATAN?!?**
 - The light of **God's Word** and the power of **Truth!**
 - **John 8:31-32** - "...the Truth will set you free!"
 - **Psalm 119:105** - "Your Word is a lamp..a light.."
 - **Jer 23:29** - "Is not my Word like a Fire...a Hammer.."
 - **Eph 6:17** - "...the Sword of the Spirit.."