

As to Satan's Schemes and Deceptions (2 Cor. 2:11; 11:13-15)

a. Enticement to sin.

1. Giving sin the names of virtues so as to "sugar o'er" the heinousness of sin.
2. Diminishing the seriousness of sin.
3. Claiming that even the best of saints sin.
4. Is not God forgiving and will forgive?
5. An occasional sin is not too bad; no one is perfect.
6. Do not some sinners prosper?
7. Look at the poverty stricken, needlessly restrictive and rigid lives saints must endure.
8. There are those who act far worse.

b. To keep us from our dedication, devotion and duties to Christ.

1. By making the world alluring.
2. By maintaining it is dangerous and a painful to be holy.
3. By maintaining it is difficult and a drudgery to pursue holiness.
4. By claiming those who pursue righteousness end up in poverty.
5. By tempting to erroneous views.
6. By claiming a few religious duties will suffice rather than true holy living.

c. To keep us in doubt.

1. By focusing on our sin instead of Christ and His work.
2. By making false definitions of graces or characteristics of saints.
3. By creating misunderstanding of adversity, pain and suffering.
4. By persuading us that our graces are counterfeit.
5. By hounding us with our frequent relapses into sin.

d. Rapid occurrence of serious or catastrophic events that threaten to overwhelm.