

The Devil Is Out There

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Intro

The Devil has not always been here, but he will be here until the end of time when God comes to vanquish the evil his darkness will remain, and as the end of days comes closer the evil will grow in the world. So, what we are here to discuss today is: Sin and slavery, how we must die to survive, how there is always a means to and end with a new beginning, and how shutting the door on the devil to come live in the light is what God wants for us.

Sin and Slavery

We all have sin and we all fall short of the glory of God. We were all born into sin and by having sin we are bound to slavery. The devil is always waiting like a lion, waiting, to pounce on the weak. If we are having a bad day, if we aren't feeling well, and when we are in a hurry, the devil uses this to his advantage to turn our world up side down. Cause he knows that if he can just push us just enough we will fall into sin. That is his job, his life's mission. While at work the other day, a waitress had a church group and a family that had come in. The church group comes in at least once a week and they usually fill most of the restaurant. So its understandable that the orders are going to take longer than normal. The waitress was having a tough enough time trying to keep up with the orders, but never the less the family while paying started to complain. Their food took to long, they had to wait in line. Though, I was standing at a register waiting to help anyone ready to pay. The manager didn't give them a discount, and the waitress got mad, who could blame her. These are the things the devil uses to cause us to fall. When we sin

we fall farther from righteousness and farther from God. The Devil is like a snake waiting to strike. But, God has a plan for us, because he loves each and every one of us. He came into the darkness of this world to bring us from evil, so that we can be released from our bonds and our debts could be paid. Christ is our lawyer, our bail-bondsmen, He is our saving grace and he is the purifying fire that we must die for if we are going to survive.

How We Must Die To Survive.

When the devil is all around you all the time just waiting for the right moment, it's hard to keep from feeling angry, hurt, and depressed. When we feel like we can't go on God is there to carry us. Sometimes it takes us to fall to our lowest level before we break. When we are truly humbled before the Lord, his spirit, his fire embeds it's self in our hearts. Its always been there. In Roman's it says "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse." So we have had God since the beginning. That light of God has always been there, though it may be dimmed by the darkness within us it will never go out and never be erased. So if we are to survive we must get to the point where we must die to sin in order to change who we are so that we might live in him, because there is no excuse. We all know right from wrong, it is our choices that we make and the things that come from out of the mouth that makes us sinners. Because what we say comes from the heart and what we do shows who we are, and through these vices we sin. If we betray someone close and dear to us we are not being kind, we are not loving our neighbor as God and his commandments say we should. If we speak ill of someone or curse at them we are not

sharing the light God has put inside of us, but we are just spreading more darkness. Love is the key to any problem, the answer to all the questions, and it is that which all the prophets and saints hold to. No matter how evil or dark our heart there is always a way out, and when we find the means to remove the darkness from our hearts and minds we then start again, a new beginning in God. God forgives all things and remembers them no more.

Now There Is A Means To And End With A New Beginning

Once we are humbled and the Lord's light takes hold we must ask for forgiveness, to then move forth into the light with God guiding our every step. Before God sent his son to save us there was no redeeming light, only the fire of hell. But because God loved us he sent his son to be our sacrifice to remove our sins and our iniquities, and to be the keeper of the keys of life and death so that he may be our advocate. Through this God gave us the means to an end. It starts like this. First we become humble by the word and we pray, we pray to the Lord in pain, in grief, and in humiliation; because we are then stripped bare. God knows all sees all and reveals all things that we hold inside. He helps us on our path to change and he nurtures us so that we grow strong in him and do not fall back in to the slavery that we once knew. Second we must then be cleansed through the Spirit of Christ through water. Without this there is a chance that we would return to bondage, because once we are washed in the blood and cleansed with water it's like God hands us a shield and tells us to prepare for the coming battle. Because we are sinners we easily fall, but as we fall God can now teach us about ourselves, so that we might learn to overcome that which controlled us from the beginning. The baptism is a

form of death to sin. Because the wages of sin is death; God gives us a way to die and be reborn into him so that we can be protected. God is our saving grace he is our means and the way to our rebirth, to a new beginning. This rebirth is basically shutting the door on the devil to come live in the light because this is what God wants for us.

Shutting The Door On The Devil To Come Live in the Light

Baptism is like shutting a door. However, the devil can still tempt us but instead of the darkness inside controlling us it now becomes our choice to fall prey, or to live in the light of God and to follow him. But the devil is everywhere hiding trying to keep us from God's light if he can't have us then he would just as soon kill us off than let us live in God, in heaven, and in the light of the truth. The Devil can never again come and touch us once we have been baptized. So we must learn to live in the light of truth, and by doing that we can; read the bible, pray, obey, and attend some form of services dedicated to God. The Devil tries to lie his way back in but the bible is our sword that God has given us to fight back against; "the wiles of the Devil." The more we read and the more we know can help us from falling back into the same old rut we started in. We must believe in the lord and trust in him otherwise we fall from grace and become bound again to sin. God is the way the truth and the light, and if we know him we know the Father and the Father knows us. The Spirit after baptism stays with us to guide us and show us the way, all we have to do is be silent and listen. God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. This means that by living in truth and learning from God we are slowly removing the shadows of our former selves. God so wants us to be happy, good, and to live in the truth, and we know this cause he sent us his son. Who else would send their son to die an

agonizing death to save even just one person, in this day no one.

The Ending

The Devil is out there but as long as we have an understanding of these things: Sin and slavery, how we must die to survive, how there is always a means to and end with a new beginning, and how shutting the door on the devil to come live in the light is what God wants for us; then the devil can not hurt, harm, control, or trick us anymore. Lets give up the world and die to sin so that we may be set free and live in him. So which is better hate or love? You decide...