

DON'T BELIEVE THE LIE

DON'T BELIEVE SATAN

Scripture text: John 8:39 – 47

Sermon - 31st July 2021

From John chapter 8, Jesus clearly describes satan as a liar and a father of all lies. His only job is to lie to the world with all sorts of lies. His Native language is called LIE. There is no truth found in him. He uses scripture to try and back up his lies as we shall discover from the Word of God, the Word of truth. The devil has a PHD in this is language. So, we are dealing with a crafty, slippery, sophisticated and cunning created being who has been in this business for a very long time indeed. We, however, should not be afraid of him because Jesus Christ, the precious Lamb of God, overcame him on the Cross of Calvary. Jesus said it is finished. Mission accomplished. Victory is on our side. He questions scripture and twists the truth so that the hearer can believe the lie and not worship the Lord God almighty. As we read from the gospels about the temptations of Jesus in the wilderness, his intention was to derail the whole mission of Christ, which is to save us from slavery, from the bondage of sin.

Who then is satan/lucifer/the devil?

Lucifer is a created being created by God as we read from Ezekiel 28: 14-17(NASV)

14 "You were the anointed cherub who covers, And I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire.

15 "You were blameless in your ways From the day you were created Until unrighteousness was found in you.

16 "By the abundance of your trade You were internally filled with violence, And you sinned; Therefore I have cast you as profane From the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the stones of fire.

17 "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, That they may see you.

1. The devil, satan is a created being from verse 15
2. Created by God
3. Satan sinned against God – he corrupted his wisdom, verse 17.

Let's be clear about this God is not a liar neither does he lie. We are told about this in the book of numbers 23:19:

19 "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it Good.

Satan used to hold a very important position in Eden, the garden of God as described in Ezekiel 28: an anointed cherub, in verse 12 we are told that he was the signet of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. So, we are dealing with an intelligent being created by God. Pride entered in his heart because he wanted to be like the most high God. His rebellion, together with some of the angels cost him the fall from that position.

From then onwards he has been on a relentless mission to recruit people to join him in the place created for him and the fallen angels called hell. Our Job is to win souls for the Kingdom of God.

He lied to the first humans in the garden of Eden(Adam and Eve) Genesis 3:

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed *, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden '?"

2 The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; 3 but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.' "

4 The serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die

This is evident that when Eve believed the lie of satan corruption entered the world. For this reason, the Son of man came to redeem us from death.

1 John 3:8

8 the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

As a god of this world as stated in 1 corinthians 4:4, he plays a major influence on the ideals, opinions, goals, hopes and view in the world. He uses all means at his disposal to woe people from the truth. Remember not all that glitters is gold. The appearance of sin is beautiful to the eye, but the end result is death. We see this in our society today: all sorts of addictions, no time for God as everyone is busy with their games, phones, pleasures, the list is endless. These are all schemes of Satan to keep the world busy all the time.

At the same time blaming God for the bad things that are occurring such as, wars, disease, unemployment, broken families, accidents on the roads etc. The lie is:

Why is a Good God allowing all these things to take place? The answer is why do people not follow the set rules in society to avoid all these calamities from happening.

These things and many more issues are happening because we have forgotten the God of the Universe. We have forgotten the Bible. Heaven and earth will pass away but my Word stands forever (Matthew 24:35) the Grass withers and the flowers fall.. Isaiah 40:8.

35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. (Matthew 24:35)

8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

But how can one believe the old book in the 21 century. You must modernise it to suit today's world. Another lie from the father of lies, satan. Who are we to change the Word of God, the creator of the universe! The almighty God. As one preacher rightly put it -how come no one complains about the sun. The sun is old, but it still gives us heat! The bible is old yes, but it is still living and active (Hebrews 4:12) It is the Word that transforms us. Heals with our marriage problems, our family problems, it gives solutions to the hurting world. God cares and that is the reason why he sent his begotten Son, John 3:16, to die for our sins. The righteous for the unrighteous. We can not save ourselves. Before we were even born Jesus Christ already paid the price. His precious blood as a ransom for our sins.

Why go to church? Why fellowship? It is a complete waste of time!

You see satan knows that there is power in the assembly of the saints. God inhabits in the praises of his people. We are warned not to neglect fellowship with each other in Hebrews 10:25.

25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Saints it is important that we take our faith seriously. We are encouraged to sharpen each other in Proverbs 27:17

17 Iron sharpeneth iron; So a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

We can debate all day about religious matters but at the end of the day God is not interested in religious debates but rather in saving the lost souls back to himself Col. 1:13) Jesus came to deliver us from the dominion of darkness and transfer us to the kingdom of his beloved son.

Allow me to look at the word of God from John 8 about the woman caught in adultery by the pharisees and scribes:

1 But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

2 Early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people were coming to Him; and He sat down and began to teach them.

3 The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the center of the court,

4 they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act.

5 "Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?"

6 They were saying this, testing Him, so that they might have grounds for accusing Him. But Jesus stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground.

7 But when they persisted in asking Him, He straightened up, and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her."

8 Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

9 When they heard it, they began to go out one by one, beginning with the older ones, and He was left alone, and the woman, where she was, in the center of the court.

10 Straightening up, Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?"

11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more."]

Now here we see that he is at it again using the pharisees and the scribes. They worked up the whole thing in order to trap Jesus. But then Jesus being the truth was able to read into it and asked a simple but VERY POWERFUL QUESTION:

"He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her."

All was silent and everyone left leaving only the woman and Jesus. His word is so powerful, and it does not go back to him without accomplishing its intended mission. You may ask but why did Jesus not throw a stone at the woman since he is without sin? A valid question but when we read from his word, in John 3:17 we see that God did not send his Son to condemn the world but to save it. Jesus can rightly throw the stones at every one of us, for we all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Yet we are told that He came to give us Life. If we confess Him as Lord and believe with our hearts that God raised him from the dead, we shall be saved.

The Devil had the nerve to tempt Jesus to:

Turn the stones to bread

Jump from the highest place of the temple

Showed him all the glories of the earth and enticed him to worship him and that we would give him the authority and power to rule the world.

In all those circumstances Jesus was able to defeat the satan by quoting from the bible. In Psalms 119 we are told that a man can only keep his way pure by the Word of God. Christ is the Word. In the beginning was the Word the Word was with God and the word is God. Jesus has shown how to overcome satan. That is by His word and prayer. Jesus prayed all the time, and we ought to pray without ceasing:

Mathew 26:41

"Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Revelation 12: 11

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. (NKJV)

Do not believe the lie of the crafty satan. The devil has been in this business for many years, thousands of years with one ambition. Not to go to hell alone. Hell was created for satan and the fallen angels and not for humanity. Satan's intentions are to ensure that the people's eyes are blinded, deaf to the Word of God.

2 corinthians 4:4

In whose case the god of this world has blinded the, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. (NASV)

The devil, THE THIEF, comes to steal, to kill and to destroy but I have come that you may have life and have it more abundantly. (John 10:10) The devil is indeed our adversary. He seeks to destroy us (1 Peter 5:8) but Good NEWS is that he is not the real Lion. The real Lion of Judah is Jesus Christ (Revelation 5:5). Satan only roars *like* a lion. He attempts to imitate.

The greatest lie of the devil to the world is to make them believe that he does not exist! The people in the World have their eyes blinded and have believed that lie. They have also believed the lie that demons do not exist. Others even say God does not exist. GOD SAYS ONLY A FOOL SAYS THAT HE DOES NOT EXIST(Psalms 14:1)

Great men from the bible believed the lie and great was their fall:

Samson and delilah

David and bathsheba 2 Samuel 11.2

Other great men who did not believe the lie:

Jesus refuted all the lies of satan.

Joseph and Potiphar's wife Gen. 39:9

Job 1:21-22 - "And said naked I came from my mother's womb and naked shall I return". The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; **blessed be the name of the Lord.**

Job 2:9 His wife said to him, are you still trying to maintain your integrity curse God and die.

Job remained steadfast in his faith and did not sin against the Lord despite of his terrible situation. A man of great integrity indeed.

The mission of satan to keep people:

1. Playing religion
2. Playing church

3. Love the world

In the world there are many debaters who seem to know the Word of God but only in part. Ignorance is a powerful strategy of satan. To keep people in the dark.

They cheat in the morning, the lie at lunch and at dinner. They even dream lies!

The lies of satan in playing religion:

If I give a tithe to the church surely, I Will go to heaven. Just look at me I give so much.

I visit the sick in hospital and prison

I go to church every Sunday, I sing in the choir, I help in this and that I, I.....

JESUS Will say I did not know you. The plan of satan is that by doing all these things then we are guaranteed a place in heaven. That is a lie. Not even the church can save us. Only the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world can save us. (1 John 1:9) it is by his grace that we are set free and not by works lest anyone should boast. Jesus answered Nicodemus, a prominent Pharisee and a member of the jewish Sanhedrin, one must be born again to enter the kingdom of God, when questioned about his teaching and the nature of salvation. (John 3:3) Receive Jesus and turn away from your sin. Let him unplug the filthy from the hearts.

Do not believe the lie

The devil exists and is very active in the world today together with its agents of darkness.

2 Corinthians 4: 4

His lie to the world is to make them believe that he does not exist at all. Big Lie

If what I do does not hurt anyone, then all is well. Another big Lie.

Remember God is not mocked you will reap from what you sow. If sow to the flesh you will reap death. The wages of sin death but the free gift of God is everlasting life.

The choice is yours:

Listen to the lies of the devil/Satan or

Listen to the voice of God.

There are indeed many waves out there trying hard to drawn you. May the Peace of God that calms the waves cause your heart to return to him and get to know him in a personal and closer way. Say no to voices of the world. Do not love the world or anything in it the bible warns us.

Let the wicked forsake his ways, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55:7)

Jesus Christ is all about truthfulness while satan is about falsehoods

The only way the devil can depart from us is by:

Submitting ourselves to God. Resisting the devil and he will flee.

James 4:7 says submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Study the word of truth. When the son sets you free you will be free indeed.

I urge you to Follow Jesus.

Do not believe the Lie but choose to follow the VOICE of the Good Shepherd our Lord Jesus Christ.