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The nature of Satan – Pt 6 A believer's response to Satan's wiles

Satan is seductive, destructive, he hates you, and you cannot see him. That is the nature of our adversary and we are not to be "ignorant of his devices" (2Cor.2: 11). Additional to understanding the devices of the devil however, is the need to live each day in a way that takes account of his devices to ensure we are **not** deceived, and so today's teaching will cover a believer's response.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

To ensure we are not seduced we need to stand against the wiles of the devil, by –

1. Putting on the whole armour of God.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Eph 6: 11 & 12).

And to so we must put on the whole armour of God, which is spiritual, and includes –

i) put on the **breastplate of righteousness** (verse 14) , and

ii) shod our feet with the **preparation of the gospel** of peace (verse 15), and

iii) take the **shield of faith** (verse 16), and

iv) take the **helmet of salvation** (verse 17), and

v) take the **sword of the Spirit**, "which is the word of God" ((verse 17).

How do we put on this armour? "Praying always with all prayer and supplication" (Eph.6: 18).

2. Being sober and vigilant.

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1Pet5: 8).

In our warfare a believer is to be sober, and vigilant (meaning watchful). And you cannot be vigilant when you are drunk, when your thoughts are more of the world than of God.

3. Neither give place to the devil.

"Neither give place to the devil" (Eph.4: 27 – also Rom.13: 14).

To give place to the devil would be to open a door to him and make provision for the flesh.

Additional comments on our three points.

Always remember – our weapons are **not** carnal (2Cor10: 4), so there is no winning lost souls like the Catholic and Muslim Crusades where the enemy either converted or was killed. Our warfare is spiritual, and in close combat like wrestling, and its against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Applying the teaching to our life today.

Many good Christian men have fallen in the battle as soldiers did in WW11 where some were lazy and stepped on mines, or popped their head up when they should have been more vigilant, and others ran out of armour and weapons, and so they froze in the cold or surrendered to the enemy.

Question to think about.

How often do we put on our armour to ensure we are equipped for this spiritual battle? When we attend church meetings, once a year, or when we notice that we are being attacked?

My answer to our question from the scriptures.

In a physical battle like Syria if a soldier walked out into the battle one morning without his whole armour on he would more than likely be killed, or seriously wounded. Given that Paul said "I die daily" (1Cor.15: 31), then I suggest we need to put on the whole armour of God **every day!** Anything less and we are ill-equipped to stand against the wiles of the devil! Be ye vigilant!