

17 December 2017

The actions of a believer (Pt.10) Live in the knowledge of the devil's device of destruction.

This is our tenth study on this topic. We previously covered Satan's device of temptation, the believer's armour that protects against temptation, and the weapon he uses to attack. This study from the scriptures will establish the destroyer's device of destruction, and the armour and weapons that God provides believers to defend themselves.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. Live in the knowledge of the destroyer's device of destruction.

"Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer" (1Cor. 10: 10).

Paul refers to the devil as the "destroyer" in his letter to the Corinthian church. The "them" is a reference to the children of Israel when they murmured against the Lord in the wilderness (Num. 14: 29) – where all that were numbered from twenty years old and upward, which murmured were destroyed. Note – Moses did not identify the destroyer as the one destroying the people who murmured. Satan is only accredited with this act of destruction in Paul's use of the event as an example to the church today "not to lust after evil things" (1Cor.10: 6) where the only end for those that continue in the lusts of the flesh is destruction.

2. Our amour against destruction is to put on the whole armour of God.

"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil... Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand" (Eph.6: 11 & 12).

3. Against the device of destruction we must use all the weapons of our warfare.

"(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) " (2Cor.10: 4).

All of Satan's devices cumulate in the device of destruction which is the destroyer's end objective. The only defence against destruction is to daily put on the whole armour of God, and on this pilgrim journey become skilful using all the weapons that God provides for our protection.

Applying the teaching to our life today.

In 1953 Hank Williams a world famous country singer died at the age of 30 from alcoholism.

Question to think about.

Why does an alcoholic die at a young age, and why does a Christian who commits fornication with "his father's wife" (1Cor.5: 1) get delivered "unto Satan for the destruction of his flesh" (verse 5)?

My answer to our question from the scriptures.

Because God knows that such people will never turn from their sin and "the wages of sin is death" (Rom.6: 23). We see this with the example of the children of Israel in the wilderness – who committed fornication (i.e. idol worship or idolatry – according to the context). Once they tempted Christ, once they then murmured against God's spokesperson Moses and showed their utter refusal to change they then attacked God for His judgments. There was therefore, no more remedy for their sin and so the destroyer destroyed them.

Whereas those that repent from their sin will continue to suffer as "the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh" (Gal.5: 17), but "by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life" (Rom.2: 7). So let us remember to "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1Pet.5: 8). And each day put on the whole armour of God and use the all weapons of our warfare to protect ourselves against the destroyer's device of destruction. Amen!!