



**DON'T
LISTEN TO
THE DEVIL'S
LIES**

CAUTION

William A. Lee

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Lies***

**Published By
Living Rivers Ministry**

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This book is dedicated to:

My Lord Jesus Christ

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Introduction

Most of us at one time or another have had a relative or a friend that went to a doctor only to come home with a bad report. Cancer, heart disease, diabetes, etc. Diseases like these are strangling much of the world today. And while the Bible declares from cover to cover God's divine will and provision for healing to all that call upon Him, most of His people still suffer sickness and many end up dying prematurely from some disease.

Then there are those that have received a healing from the Lord yet they struggle with lack and in some cases poverty. And again the Bible declares from cover to cover God's divine will and provision for material blessings, yet many are still financially strapped and bound.

Worst of all many believe that it is God's will for them to be sick or suffer lack. Or they try to rationalize that God is trying to teach them how to suffer in some dignified manner even though the scriptures proclaim a message of healing and prosperity for God's people.

So if the Bible teaches us that it is God's will to heal and bless His people then why are so many of His people sick and/or suffering lack when God has promised health and financial blessings to them in the scriptures?

I had to ask God this question where my own life was concerned. I seemed to have strong faith in certain areas and yet I struggled when it came to other areas such as receiving healing. I had suffered with physical problems in my body and I needed a breakthrough but it always seemed to be a little further than I was able to reach. I needed to figure out where I was missing the mark.

Now I would like to share with you my own experience that brought about my need to ask God this question where my own life was concerned. My troubles started when I was eight years old, a car hit me while I was riding a bicycle. It was really my fault but nevertheless I was thrown from the bike and hit the curb headfirst. I broke my jaw on both sides and had my mouth wired shut for many months. I recovered and went on with life. But when I was seventeen, about a year after I had accepted Jesus, I began at times to experience strange smells in my nose and I found myself grabbing onto the arms of chairs that I sat in until

these strange sensations subsided. A couple of times I was told by friends that I had completely blacked out.

Within a couple of weeks my grandmother took me to see a doctor. In the process of time I came to find that I had been diagnosed with partial complex epileptic seizures.

This really turned my life upside down. My heart sunk as the doctor told me that for the rest of my life I would have to take medication to prevent seizures. One day I was a healthy person, the next day I was ball and chained to an endless prescription.

Initially, I was given a medicine called Dilatin and within six months I began having side effects from this medicine. The main side effect that I experienced was called Dilatin Hyperplasia. This is a condition that caused my gums to become swollen and tender. For example, if I ate anything with citric acid I would feel a very uncomfortable burning sensation in my mouth around my gums.

However, one day I went to a small Bible study with my grandparents and about six other people. We had just finished eating lunch and I had topped

my lunch off with some ambrosia fruit salad that someone had brought. While I was sitting there my mouth started burning from the citrus fruit in the salad but nobody at the Bible study knew I was in pain. Then all of a sudden the leader of the Bible study grabbed her mouth and said: “Somebody here is experiencing pain in his or her mouth and the Lord wants to heal you.” I was stunned! I spoke up and told the leader that I was the one experiencing the pain. Then everyone stretched their hands toward me and prayed, that day my mouth was instantly and completely healed. This was the first time I had ever experienced a healing touch from God. But the story doesn’t end there, about eight years later the problem started to come back again.

Even though I was very grateful to be healed from the pain that I had been experiencing in my mouth, I often pondered why God had only healed my mouth that day. I found myself wondering, why God did not heal the underlying root of my problem, which was the epilepsy. After all it was the epilepsy that required the medication that caused the pain in the first place.

I figured it had to be just as easy for God to heal epileptic seizures as it would be for Him to heal a

side effect caused by a medication. But many years later I realized that there was only one reason God did not completely heal me that day. Simply put, God wanted me to receive my healing by faith. He wanted me to learn to walk by faith for myself instead of simply handing me a miraculous healing on a platter. In other words, God wanted me to grow up and learn how to walk by faith instead of doing it for me through miraculous intervention.

I have found that at times the Lord will intervene and do special things on behalf of young believers in Christ that he will not do for more mature believers. When we were children our parents carried us in their arms but as we matured they expected us to learn to walk for ourselves.

Likewise God wants all of His children to learn how to walk by faith. God does not want us to put out a fleece or go searching for miracles; instead, God wants us to receive His provision by faith in His Word alone.

Heb 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, my soul has no pleasure in him."

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must

believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Ultimately, I ended up taking the prescribed Dilantin for about eight years before the side effects returned and became overwhelming. I then went to a different doctor who prescribed another medicine called Tegretol, which I took for another eleven years until the side effects from this medicine also became intolerable. The Tegretol caused stomach problems, excessive tiredness, and because my stomach was always upset I was popping antacids like candy which latter began to aggravate my kidneys.

After nearly twenty years of taking medicine and suffering a variety of side effects. I had finally had enough! I wanted, no actually, I needed a breakthrough. I had been a Christian for nearly twenty years and during all that time I had gone to three different Bible schools. I had listened to thousands of sermons, many on the subject of divine healing. Yet my heath still seemed out of control, like a car on a steep hill with no breaks.

I simply needed a breakthrough and I wanted to get the results that God's Word promised that I could have. Even though I had been taught God's

Word concerning the promises of healing and faith for many years, I still never seemed to get a complete breakthrough. I had lots of ministers pray for me over the years but to no avail. I did not know where I was missing it but I was determined to get an answer. I knew that God's Word was true and I knew that He was no respecter of persons. The scriptures are full of accounts of people that were healed by God and I knew if God had healed them He was obligated by His Word to heal me. So I knew the problem was not on God's end I knew I was missing something but I did not know what it was.

Finally, I went to God in prayer to find out where I was missing it. While praying I asked God why I had not received a breakthrough in this area of my life. I also asked God why most Christians as a whole were not experiencing more breakthroughs in their lives. I did not get an answer that day but a few days latter I awoke in the morning and to my surprise I had dreamed a dream from the Lord and received the answer I needed.

The dream was very strange in that I fell asleep while I was dreaming and then I dreamed a dream within the dream. This puzzled me until one day I

heard my pastor teach about Joseph and His interpretation of the Pharaoh's dream.

Genesis 41:32 "And the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

After hearing my pastor I realized that I had the dream within a dream because God wanted me to know that He was about to establish the message He gave me.

Now I am not going to go into all the details of the dream but I will say that I heard God speak to me in the dream and what he said surprised me. He said. "I want you to write three books and you shall name the books: 'Don't Panic,' 'Don't Give Up,' and 'Don't Listen to the Devils Lies.'" Then I awoke and told my wife that I had a dream from the Lord. Up to this point in my life I had never before had a dream from the Lord. But I also realized that this dream and its message was a answer to the prayer I had prayed only a few days earlier.

So when I had prayed and asked God why Christians, including myself, were not in many cases receiving their promised breakthroughs.

God's answer to me was. Write three books and call them: 'Don't Panic,' 'Don't Give Up,' and 'Don't Listen to the Devils Lies.' The book you are reading is one of these three books that God had instructed me to write. And I believe that the messages contained in these books are God's divine answer to receiving a breakthrough in any area of your life. I also recommend that you read all three books if you need a breakthrough along with my book "Faith that Honors God". And if you need a financial breakthrough I recommend reading my book "Honor the key to Prosperity".

By the way as I spent my time writing these books and followed the remedy that God gave me I am now completely healed and symptom and side effect free. I have also put these same principals to work on my financial matters and I can say with confidence that I am walking in great abundance and favor wherever I go. And just as God's remedy has worked for me it can also work for you!

Revealing the Enemy

How many times have you looked at the world around you and wondered why it is in such upheaval. There are nations at war, famines, pestilence, poverty throughout the world, high crime rates everywhere, people stealing, killing and destroying other people's lives. Why is the world is such a chaotic mess?

The first two chapters of the Bible give us a picture of perfection, a picture of man in paradise. But obviously, the world we live in today is far from a picture of paradise. So what happened?

Upon a close inspection of the first few chapters of the book of Genesis we begin to see several things that help us answer these questions. First, we see God's creation of man and all of the animals. We then see that God created a special garden and placed man in it along with two very unique trees.

Genesis 2:8-9

8 The LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed.

9 And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (NKJ)

The second thing we discover is that God gave the first man, Adam, a home, a job and instructed him about garden protocol.

Genesis 2:15-17

15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;

17 "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (NKJ)

Upon a closer examination of Genesis 2:15 in the original Hebrew it is found that the word translated “keep” would be more accurately translated as “guard” and/or “protect.” This being the case, why would God have told Adam to guard the garden unless there was some kind of threat from an enemy already in the garden?

Many times I have pondered why God allowed an enemy into the garden in the first place. After all, God put Adam in paradise, the perfect world that He had created for him. So why didn't God get rid of this enemy rather than instructing Adam to be on guard? After all, God has the power and ability needed to destroy any enemy.

I was missing something. I knew the bible taught that God created the heavens and the earth and everything in them. Therefore, I could only conclude that at some point God must have created what, ultimately, became this enemy in the garden.

Continuing to read through the next few chapters in the book of Genesis we find that Adam and Eve are tempted by a serpent to disobey God and eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, which was forbidden. And I am sure you already know that Adam and Eve's curiosity seemed to get the best of them and the obscure enemy, which God had warned them about, seized the moment.

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate from the forbidden tree death came upon their spirits cutting them off from fellowship with God and ultimately physical death set in as well. Adam and Eve never realized the far-reaching impact and

consequences of their disobedience. Because when they died spiritually, they passed this death nature within them down to all of their children and, ultimately, all the way down to you and me. Now we can begin to see how this planet ended up in such a mess.

Genesis 3:1

1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman [Eve], "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" (NKJ)

Subtlety is one of the main tactics of this enemy. If Eve had perceived any threat from the serpent she would never have listened to him. It seems that we could conclude that Adam and Eve must have talked with the serpent many times before this recorded event because it did not seem to cause any suspicion or warning when it spoke to Eve, tempting her to eat the forbidden fruit. But that is where the subtlety of the serpent comes into the picture.

By the Scriptures we understand that the serpent was able to speak at this point but it seems that the serpent had little to no spiritual discernment

because the real enemy, an evil and sinister spirit, was using him to speak to the first couple like a puppet. The serpent may or may not have realized that he was being used in this manner.

Nevertheless, this evil spirit behind the serpent was no doubt the real enemy that God had warned Adam about when He had instructed Adam to guard the garden.

Genesis 3:1-6

1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;

3 "but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'"

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

5 "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took

of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband [who was] with her, and he ate. (NKJ)

This sly enemy tempted Eve to take her focus off the authority of God's Word and turn her focus to the pleasure of the moment, without considering the consequences of tomorrow. (Sound familiar?)

But who was this deceitful enemy and where did he come from and how did he get into the garden in the first place?

Even though the Bible does not give us a direct answer to that question, it does give us many clues, that when put together, help us to see the answer. One thing the Bible does tell us, is that at some point in the distant past there was a battle in heaven due to the treason of a cherub named Lucifer.

Isaiah 14:12-16

12 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!

13 For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of

the congregation on the farthest sides of the north;

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.

15 Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.

16 "Those who see you will gaze at you, and consider you, saying: 'Is this the man [one] who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, (NKJ)

There is also another passage in the book of Ezekiel that is addressed to a king of Tyre. Biblical scholars agree that this passage is actually speaking to Lucifer, the spirit behind the king of Tyre, as in the same way Lucifer was also the spirit behind the serpent.

Ezekiel 28:12-19

12 "Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

13 You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The

workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created.

14 "You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.

15 You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you.

16 "By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones.

17 "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground [earth], I laid you before kings, that they might gaze at you.

18 "You defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading; therefore I brought fire from your midst; it devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you.

19 All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; you have become a horror, and shall be no more forever."" "

God created Lucifer as the anointed cherub who covers. But Lucifer became full of pride and wanted more authority than God had given Him. In fact, He wanted all of God's authority. He then led a rebellion in heaven enticing a third of the angels to follow him. This act of treason and rebellion was the end of his employment in heaven and at that time God cast him to the earth. This accounts for the earth being void and dark as recorded in **Genesis 1:2**. God could have disposed of Lucifer right then, He could have cooked his goose, but God had another idea.

It was at this point that Lucifer the anointed cherub who covers became Satan the adversary. He is also called the Devil, seeing that evil is now his nature.

Revelation 12:9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Before we continue any further, I want to clarify one very important thing. God does not work with Satan! However, God is allowing him to be an adversary to man for a season. Satan is not an

agent representing God, nor is he any kind of co-laborer. God created Lucifer but he corrupted himself and became God's adversary and ultimately man's as well.

Satan was cast out of heaven and banished to the earth and in the end his goose will be cooked when he is cast into the lake of fire for an everlasting punishment. However, it is to be noted that he is still a powerful spirit. Yet his power and authority is nothing compared to God's power and authority, nor to the power and authority of any born again child of God.

So then, why did God banish Satan to the earth and allow him to have access into the Garden of Eden in the first place?

To answer this question there are a few things that we still need to understand about God. Namely, God is a God of purpose. That means that God never does anything without a purpose. When God banished Satan to the earth God had a purpose. God knew that Satan's nature had become corrupt. God also knew that He was going to create mankind on the earth. God also realized that Satan, with his corrupt nature, would attempt to subvert and corrupt man; particularly when Satan came to

realize that God made man in His own image and crowned man with authority and dominion like unto Himself.

Remember that Satan wanted to be like God but he tried to take it by force. Then God turned around and made man like Himself. God decided to give man the very thing for which Satan had lusted. No doubt this stirred up Satan's hatred and jealousy towards mankind. After all, everything Satan wanted God gave to man instead. Simply put, God knew that Satan with his corrupt nature would try to overthrow and subvert man as he tried to overthrow and subvert God in heaven. But God allowed this to happen because God wanted to give mankind a choice.

The Choice is Yours

I do not believe that any of us have truly come to understand what it means to be made in the Image of God. God had created Lucifer a beautiful anointed cherub. Yet, even in heaven, in the very presence of God, the God of love, goodness, and kindness Lucifer sinned and attempted to overthrow His kingdom.

Now God had decided to do something so great, so glorious that even the angels stood by and marveled. No angelic host had ever imagined such an event could occur. God decided to create man in His very own image, the most powerful spiritual being ever created by God. The only spirit greater than this man was God Himself. God not desiring to see another rebellion in heaven created the earth and placed man in it and gave man the choice to walk and live with God Himself. It would seem as though God had decided that in the event man rebelled against him, He would contain the rebellion to the physical earth.

Joshua 24:15 "...choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve..."

God wanted every man that was made in His own image to have the choice of having a relationship with him. This is the reason God allowed Satan into the earth and this truth also helps explain the reason why God put the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the midst of the garden of Eden.

Genesis 2:15-17

15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;

17 "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Every time I looked at these Scriptures I could not seem to help but wonder why God put the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil” in middle of the garden in the first place, knowing that if man ate from it he would die. I had questioned this in my mind for many years. Then one day in prayer God revealed the answer to me. He first took me to the New Testament and reminded me of the following Scripture.

John 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

God then reminded me that in the Garden of Eden man had been given only one commandment:

Genesis 2:16-17

16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;

17 "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

The Lord then explained to me why He placed the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden. He told me that He had placed the tree in the garden out of His great love for mankind. This sounded puzzling at first but God showed me that He wanted to give man a choice. He further explained, *"love cannot be forced because love is a choice."* True love is always an act of a person's free will. He further showed me that love always gives, it never takes or demands. But the only way any man can truly reciprocate God's love and have a relationship with Him is by having the ability to choose to love God as an act of his own free will.

God desires only to love and be loved. The divine family decided to create man and expand the family. God the Father desired to share His life with children that He could love. God the Son desired brethren with whom He could share His life and love. And the Holy Spirit was in agreement with both of them.

God wanted the love of a family, not a bunch of servants or heartless, mindless subjects. Perfect love can only exist in an environment based on choice. The one thing God can never have unless it is given to Him is our heart and our love. God will never force or demand that you or any other person love or serve Him; nor will God force you or any other person to love or serve a fellow man. God will even protect your right to turn your back on Him if you choose. But obviously that would not be the best course of action. However, God will protect your right to choose all the way to the Gates of Hell.

Understanding these concepts helps us to grasp why God allows evil to continue in the earth today. There are men that choose to do evil. Sure, they are influenced by the Devil and go about stealing, killing and destroying innocent people's lives. But understand the Devil is only a tempter and, in the

end, it is a man's choice to do evil. God does not stop people from doing evil things because He has given all men a free will. Nevertheless, remember that whatever a man sows that shall he also reap (Galatians 6:7-10) and do not forget that a day of judgement and reckoning is coming.

Revelation 20:11-12

11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

God truly desires to have a relationship with every man and woman created in His image but many seem to prefer sin and rebellion instead. However, choosing sin and rebellion has its consequences. Any person who chooses sin and rebellion as a way of life will not be able to live with God because God is absolutely holy.

Leviticus 19:2 "Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

If you turn your back on God and His Word you are really turning your back on life and the Source of Life. You are turning your back on love, truth, goodness, kindness and so much more. When you turn your back on God you're cutting yourself off from the only Source of Life. The only thing left is complete separation from God, which is also called the second death, resulting in destruction and desolation for eternity.

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

It is not that God desires to punish any man, sending him to eternal damnation and separation from Himself. In fact, I believe it breaks God's heart every time a man rebels and chooses not to love Him. But if any person does not want to walk with God then he will not be able to receive God's forgiveness for his sins through Jesus Christ, the Son of God. And if a man's sins are not cleansed because he rejects God and His Son then

ultimately, he will have to stand before God in his sins to give an account for them. And no amount of good works will ever make atonement for sin on that Day. Only the precious blood of Jesus Christ applied to your sin can cleanse it.

Anyone who rejects Jesus will have to stand before God in their sin with no advocate and God will be forced to pronounce judgment upon that man and put him away from His presence, for sin cannot dwell in His presence. The Scriptures also tell us that no sin or anything that defiles will ever enter the New Jerusalem or the New Earth after it is recreated for those who love God.

In the end, God does not send any man to Hell. You choose to go there yourself based on your own choice to accept or reject God and His ways. God created Hell for the Devil and his demons, not for man. However, any man who rebels against God and sides with the Devil will end up in the same place where he is going.

I John 3:6-14

6 Whoever abides in Him does not sin.

Whoever sins [as a way of life] has neither seen Him nor known Him.

7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

What many people fail to realize is that the only way that God was able to provide salvation and the forgiveness of sins was through Jesus Christ shedding His blood on behalf of mankind.

Take my advice: walking with God is life and life more abundantly. And walking with God is the only way to realize your purpose and find true fulfillment in life.

Acts 17:26-28

26 "And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,

27 "so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

28 "for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.'

Learning to Fight the Enemy

Now we know who the real enemy is and why God has allowed him to be an adversary to man. We also learned that Satan was behind the fall of man, which brought about all the trouble, confusion and evil in the world today. But ultimately, God wants us to make the choice of whom we will serve. That being the case, if we choose to serve and walk with God, then we must be prepared to fight the enemy.

However, simply realizing that we have an enemy is not enough. God wants us to learn how to deal with our adversary Satan on a personal level. This is where spiritual boot camp begins.

Learning spiritual warfare starts by understanding the enemy's tactics, motives and characteristics. Once we begin to recognize the Devil's characteristics and patterns it becomes easier and easier to identify and defeat his attacks. Like all serial criminals the Devil has a method to his madness.

However, we must realize that the Devil is not like any other enemy and peace talks are not an option. If you took every thug, dictator and terrorist that

has ever lived on the face of this earth and rolled them all up into a single individual, that individual would be like the Good Samaritan compared to the Devil. The Devil is nothing less than pure concentrated evil. Every last thing that God stands for the Devil opposes. And if it was in his power, he would kill God and annihilate every man made in His image. So we must learn how to effectively deal with this menace.

Whether you have had a personal relationship with God for years or you are new to the Christian faith, it probably did not take you very long to realize that you're in the midst of a spiritual fight for your life. However, merely knowing that we are in a fight is not enough; we must start training so that we can beat the Devil at his own game.

Now every fighter needs a trainer and our Trainer is none other than greatest heavyweight of all time, Jesus, the Champion of our salvation. Jesus already defeated the Devil in a third round knock out. Jesus stripped the Devil of his title, "God of this World" which he originally acquired by knocking out Adam and Eve in the Garden. Nevertheless, even though the Devil has lost his title he has not yet retired from fighting. So until that day comes God wants us to practice

overcoming evil by working out on the Devil's head like a punching bag.

God wants us to box the Devil and enforce his defeat on a personal level. In order to accomplish this we will have to personally apply the teachings of our Trainer and get prepared. Do not be intimidated with the thought of boxing the Devil, after all he is already a loser. Just remember, even though the Devil already knows how to box, he does not have Jesus in his corner. But do not underestimate the need for training and preparation because if we do not learn how to spiritually box then we may be the one that gets knocked out instead of the Devil.

Ephesians 6:12 For we do not wrestle [fight or box] against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Now our fight is not like any other and the location is not in a boxing ring or in some back alley. This fight is a war of words and ideologies. And the battlefield is located in our soul.

When the bell rings the Devil always goes right for your soul. In the end, it is your soul that the Devil is truly after because your soul is the part of you that steers your ship, so to speak. Your soul is only one part of you but it holds the key to your will and your destiny.

Knowing that the Devil is after our soul, it should not be a surprise to us, when he attacks our thought life. The Devil will throw a wide variety of wicked and fiery punches aimed directly at our head. The number one punch the Devil uses is his wicked punch of temptation; hence the Devil is also called the Tempter.

Mark 14:38 "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit truly is willing, but the flesh is weak."

In the end, all of the Devil's punches are aimed to steal, kill and destroy our lives from within. Now our mission, should we accept it, is to discern these attacks and quench all these wicked and fiery punches with holy counter punches and righteous jabs. But in order to do that, we must learn to recognize when the Devil or an evil spirit is speaking to us.

Ephesians 6:16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts (punches) of the wicked. (KJV)

Presently, I have been a Christian boxing the Devil for over twenty years. In all that time, I have never seen the Devil nor have I ever heard his voice audibly with my ears and I personally do not know anyone else that has. That being the case then, how does the Devil tempt us if we cannot see or hear him and how can we recognize when he is tempting us or speaking to us?

In order to answer these questions we need to understand a couple of things. First, we need to realize that all creation has its origin in the spirit realm. In fact, the earth is located in the middle of “spirit central.”

Secondly, we need to understand that man is foremost a spirit being that possess a soul and lives in a body that is bound to this three-dimensional terra firma we call the earth. At conception, all of us are given a brand new earth suit to house our spirit and soul while here. Originally our body was never created to die but sin brought about death and once our earth suit ceases to function we can now longer reside in this earth realm. Then,

depending on our relationship with God, we will either go to be with the Lord or we will go into eternal damnation with Satan.

Now the Devil, on the other hand, is also a spirit bound to this earth but he does not have a dirt body that would allow him access to this three-dimensional physical earth realm. This accounts for the reason we cannot see or hear the Devil or his demons. They are spirits without physical dirt bodies. This is also the reason that evil spirits try to possess men. They want to have access to the physical realm.

So to answer the question, “How does the Devil tempt us if we cannot see or hear him?” While it is true that the Devil does not have a physical mouth, he is a spirit with the capacity to speak and reason. And as a spirit he is able to whisper his lies and temptations to our spirit.

Likewise, when God speaks to us He will speak to our spirit. We will hear His still small voice deep in our spirit and it is usually accompanied by a spiritual knowing. However, the only way we can discern God’s voice from our own spirit’s voice is to spend regular time with Him. The more time we

spend with God in prayer the more sensitive we become to His voice.

Most Christians hear God's voice more than they realize but they do not recognize Him. They just think it is their own thoughts because they have not yet learned to discern His voice. In the same way, most people in the world are not aware of God's voice, angelic voices or demonic voices. When an evil spirit speaks and tempts them they do not realize where the thought originated. As a result, they mistakenly think they are hearing their own thoughts because they have no spiritual discernment.

You know that little voice you always hear in your head? That, my friend, is the voice of your spirit. In fact, the Bible tells us that out of the abundance of the heart (spirit) the mouth speaks (Matthew 12:34). Your mouth and your spirit are directly connected. Your mind may help you to reason and make choices about what you say but when you speak, your words come directly out of your spirit.

Whenever God, angels or demons speak to you, your spirit hears their message voiced. However, your mind does not understand these spiritual messages until your spirit man first transmits them

into thoughts that your mind can understand. These thoughts come up into that little inner voice you hear in your mind every day. That is why you normally do not hear God's voice directly. Instead, you hear God's voice transmitted through your own spirit. This is the same reason you will rarely ever hear an angel or an evil spirit directly because you hear their voices transmitted through your spirit.

When we are tempted or we have an evil thought that does not necessarily mean that our heart is evil. It most likely means that a demonic spirit could be speaking to our spirit. Now, I am not saying that every evil thought we have comes from a demonic spirit. But I am saying that these spirits are there and they are continually working to spread their wicked ways and bring destruction into our lives.

The only way that we will be able to discern spiritually transmitted thoughts from our own thoughts is by spending time with God. The more time we spend with God and His Word the more sensitive we become to His Voice. Spending time in God's Word will help us to know God's thoughts and ways. God will never say anything to us that will contradict His Word as revealed to us

in the Scriptures. God is not divided against Himself and He is not schizophrenic.

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

We must create a habit of continually screening all of the thoughts that come into our mind through the filter of God's Word. When we learn to do this it will not be hard to discern demonic voices because the light of God's Word will always reveal and expose them.

Don't Listen to the Devil's Lies

Today there is widespread deception within the body of Christ. This deception shows up in many forms but it all has its origin in the devil.

Deception only occurs when we do not know the truth. No one, including the Devil, will be able to deceive you if you know the truth. But the only way to tell a lie from the truth is to know God's Word personally.

John 17:17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

God's Word is not just truth it is absolute truth and it is the highest authority. This may seem like basic Bible but it is far from it. This must become a deep personal revelation if we ever expect to walk in the promises of God and avoid deception. We all need to mature in Christ to the point where we are able to fully base our lives entirely upon God's Word.

Matthew 4:4 But He [Jesus] answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

When we walk by faith we have to choose God's truth over the facts, circumstances and even our emotions. God's Word must become absolute truth and final authority for our own lives. God's Word is the foundation of truth for our faith and the only sure foundation to build our lives upon.

God's Word is the foundation of our faith but we must not forget that the strength of our faith resides in our understanding of God's love for us. We have to get a revelation of God's love for us. God wants to see us healed, delivered, and blessed. It is only our faith in God's love for us that connects us to His promises. If we do not believe that God wants us whole and blessed or we are deceived by a lie of the Devil we will not walk in the promises that have been made available to us.

**Galatians 5:6 ...faith which worketh by love.
(KJV)**

In the same way that God's Word is absolute truth the Devil's words are always absolute lies and his words will absolutely always contradict God's Word, God's Ways and God's Authority. Furthermore, where God's Word brings faith the Devil's lies only bring fear.

All fear is based on lies so if we have fear operating in any area of our life, then somewhere we have been deceived and believed a lie of the Devil. Unchecked fear will ultimately result in some form of bondage but faith in God's love and truth will bring us to liberty.

Make no mistake about it we are in the middle of a spiritual battle against an enemy that is constantly attempting to deceive and distract us from the truth and authority of God's Word. The devil will do anything he can to diminish in our minds the authority and truth of God's Word. If we wish to receive all that God has promised to us in His Word, then we must fight the good fight of faith, staying grounded on the authority of His Word because the devil will stop at nothing to keep us in bondage and out of the promised land.

The Devil will try to tell you that you will never get healed, or that you will never get ahead financially, that your life will never amount to anything. He will try to tell you that you will never have enough or you will never make it. His lies never end because he is an absolute compulsive liar. In fact, the Bible calls Satan the "father of lies." That means all lies ultimately have their source in him.

John 8:44 "..."He [the Devil] was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

Always remember that the Devil uses his lies to tempt us to rebel against God. However, God will never tempt any man to sin or to do evil. But God does allow us to be tempted by the Devil, however, God only allows temptation to come because He knows that temptation always requires us to make a choice and this is the only reason that He allows it.

That is what temptation does it forces us to make a choice and there is no way around it. Any choice, even making no choice is still a choice. God's motive for allowing man to be tempted is simply to see what choice we will make. However, the Devil's motive is to simply to destroy our lives by getting us to rebel against God.

James 1:12-15

12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive

the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

13 Let no one say when he is tempted [tested or tried], "I am tempted [tested or tried] by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone [with evil].

14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed [tempted by the Devil].

15 Then, when [evil] desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

Even though God will never tempt us with evil He will at times test our character, motives and faithfulness. And in most cases this is really for our own benefit, as it helps us to gauge our own spiritual growth. Anyway, if God does test us it will not be with any evil or with any temptation to sin. It will simply be a test of character and obedience.

It is relatively easy to recognize temptation but it takes more discernment to recognize deception. And the only way to recognize deception is to know the truth and that God's Word is truth. Also keep in mind that the Devil will most likely use other people to tempt and deceive you.

Nevertheless, no matter the source, it is vitally important to recognize the Devils lies otherwise we may find ourselves deceived or accepting less than Gods perfect will for our lives. I know in my own life that I let the Devil deceive me into believing that I would never get healed from epileptic seizures and that I should simply accept the fact that I would have to take medication the rest on my life. But God's Word painted a different picture; it was simply a matter of who's report I chose to believe.

Would you like to know Jesus?

Read this page carefully, then pray.

Romans 10:9-11

9 If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." (NKJ)

Understand that salvation is not just reciting a prayer but salvation is opening your heart to Jesus and making Him Lord of your life.

Now pray: Jesus forgive me for my sins. I turn from my sins and I receive you, Jesus, as my Lord and Savior. I ask you to come into my heart and take control of my life. I believe you took my place and died for me on the cross and I believe that God raised you from the dead. I thank you for saving me and revealing yourself to me in a personal and intimate way. In Jesus name, amen.

Now do yourself a favor by contacting this ministry. We want to help you get started in the right direction.

About the Author

William A. Lee has been a Christian for nearly twenty years with a degree in Theological Studies. He completed courses in biblical studies at Crenshaw Christian Center's Ministry Training Institute and the International School of Ministry. He has taught on the life changing power of God's Word with revelation knowledge and insight to help bring believers up to higher levels of maturity and victory in Christ. William is a man with a message. Many years ago, the Lord led him into an extensive study on the subject of honor and integrity. This study ultimately culminated in the writing of several books on the subject.

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