

SATAN AND HIS ATTACKS ON THE SPIRITUAL CHRISTIAN – ATTACK OR MANIPULATION?

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Ephesians 6:10-18

PREMISE: (1) Satan and Demons Attack by Putting Lusts (Strong Desires) in the Mind of the Spiritual Christian. (2) The Defeated Christian Becomes Carnal (Sin Nature).

Introduction

- A. The Identification of the Enemy / Enemies of the Spiritual Christian
 - 1. Satan – Eph. 6:11, 16
 - 2. Demons – Eph. 6:12
- B. The Importance of the Fact That Satan and Demons Attack the Spiritual Christian
 - 1. Armor → Methodology of the Devil – Eph. 6:11
 - 2. Wrestle → Spirit Beings and Those under Their Influence – Eph. 6:12
 - 3. Stand Armored – Eph. 6:11, 13, 14 (cf. Jas. 4:7)
 - a. Stand Against – ἀνθίστημι (*anthistemi*) = ἄντι {against} + ἵστημι {*histemi*}
 - b. Stand – Eph. 6:11, 14 – ἵστημι {*histemi*}
- C. The Intention Is to Attack the Spiritual Christian's Mind
 - 1. His Devices = the Result of the Workings of the Mind – τὰ νοήματα (*to noemata*) – 2 Cor. 2:11
 - 2. Satan Has Lusts (Strong Desires) – Jn. 8:44
 - 3. He Attacks the Human Spirit or Rationale Which Is Saved – Jn. 3:5, 6
 - 4. The Flesh, on the Other Hand, Wars against the Soul – 1 Pe. 2:11
- D. The Condition of the Carnal Believer Concerning Satan and Demons
 - 1. The Carnal Christian Is a Defeated Christian
 - 2. The Satanic World System Is Designed to Manipulate the Sin Nature

3. Satan and Demons Manipulate the Carnal Christian
 - a. Curb the Sin Nature
 - b. Control the Sin Nature
 - c. Channel the Sin Nature
 - d. Gratify the Sin Nature
 4. The Carnal Christian Is a Passive Enemy of Satan and Demons Only Because He / She Has the Potential to Become Spiritual
- E. Three Satanic Influences on Christians Identified
1. Satan Attempts to Misdirect a Spiritual Christian's Love toward His Present Evil Age – Demas the Evil Age Lover – 2 Tim. 4:10
 2. Satan Attempts to Misdirect a Spiritual Christian's Conformity toward the Legal Age Showing God How Righteous He or She May Be – the Legal Age Conformer – Rom. 12:1, 2
 3. Satan Captures Some Christians Alive and Manipulates Them to Do His Desirous Will as They Might Do the Will of God – the Ensnared Christian = Tool of Satan – 2 Tim. 2:26 {A Carnal Christian Trapped Alive}

I. THE ELEMENTS OF SATANIC ATTACK ON THE SPIRITUAL CHRISTIAN

- A. The Immediate Goal of Satan and Demons Is to Make the Believer Carnal
1. They Manipulate and Influence the Carnal Believer
 2. The Satanic World System Is Designed to Curb and Control the Sin Nature
- B. The Primary Attack of Satan and Demons against a Spiritual Believer
1. Independence from God – "Hath God said?" – Gen. 3:1
 2. "You Will Be like Elohim" – Gen. 3:5, 22
 3. cf. Jas. 4:13-17 and Phil. 2:13
- C. The Attacks of Satan Identified in Scripture
1. Disappointment (Job 3:1-13 etc.)
 2. Discouragement (Job 3:1-11 cf. 1:22 etc.)
 3. Doubt (Job 3:1-13 etc.)
 4. Cowardice in Spiritual Things (Luke 22:31, 32 cf. 1 Pe. 5:8)
 5. Lying (John 8:44; Acts 5:3)
 6. Pride (1 Timothy 3:6)
 7. Worry or Self Pity (1 Peter 5:7, 8)
 8. Unforgiving Spirit (2 Corinthians 2:9-11)

9. Stealing (Ephesians 4:27, 28)
10. Corrupt Communication (Ephesians 4:29)
11. Laziness in Spiritual Things (1 Timothy 5:13-15)
12. Tattlers or Tale Bearers (1 Timothy 5:14)
13. Gossips or Busy Bodies (1 Timothy 5:13)
14. Bitterness (Heb. 12:15)

Notice that Satan and /or demons are in the immediate context of these attacks.

- D. The Identifying of the Attack as from Satan and Demons Gives the Spiritual Believer Opportunity to Put on the Armor

II. THE EFFECT OF SATANIC ATTACK ON THE SPIRITUAL CHRISTIAN

- A. The Believer Identifies the Attack as Satanic and Mentally Puts on the Whole Armor and Stands Defended – Eph. 6:10-18
 1. Remains Spiritual
 2. Has Victory over Satan or Demon
- B. The Believer Succumbs to the Attack and Immediately Becomes Carnal
 1. Moves into Fallen Sin Nature
 2. Manipulated by Satan, Demons and the World System

III. THE EFFICIENCY OF THE SATANIC ATTACK AFTER THE SPIRITUAL BELIEVER BECOMES CARNAL

- A. Satan and Demons No Longer Need to Attack
- B. The Believer Is Already Defeated
- C. The Believer Is Living in His or Her Sin Nature
- D. The Same Attack that Defeats a Christian Can Manipulate the Carnal Believer
 1. When the Believer Is Carnal, He or She Doesn't Need to Be Attacked
 2. What Was a Satanic Attack Becomes Satanic Manipulation
 - a. What Was an Attack Can Become a Characteristic of the Behavior of the Carnal Christian
 - b. When a Defeated Believer Has Become Carnal, Satan Is Victorious
 - c. There Is a Movement from Assault to Subordination of the Defeated Foe

3. The Defeated Believer Moves into the Realm of Living Independent of God

IV. THE EXTENSION FROM SATANIC ATTACK TO SATANIC OR DEMONIC MANIPULATION OF THE CARNAL CHRISTIAN

- A. The Satanic World System Was Devised to Control the Adamic Sin Nature
 - 1. Satan Founded the World System with Cain's Murdering of Abel his Brother
 - a. Luke 11:50, 51
 - b. Murder and Other Manifested Works of the Flesh Were Not Expected by Satan When He Planned the Fall
 - 2. The World System Is Designed to Put Curbs on the Sin Nature So That It Can't Get Out of Control
- B. Satanic and Demonic Manipulation Is from Outside of the Christian
 - 1. Not Possession
 - 2. But Oppression
- C. Satan or Demons Can Make What Were Attacks a Lifestyle for Some Christians
 - 1. Habituation
 - 2. Example: Lying, Stealing, Busybodies, Discouragement, Corrupt Speech etc.
- D. The Worse Thing that Satan Can DO with a Carnal Christian Is to Ensnare Him or Her and Cause Him or Her to Do His Desirous Will = Become a Tool of Satan

Conclusion

- A. Satan's Primary Attack Is Independence from God
- B. Satan and Demons Attack the Spiritual Believer
 - 1. Methods Focus on the Workings of the Mind
 - 2. Mechanism Is the External Putting of Thoughts in the Mind
- C. The Saint Can Mentally Put on the Armor of God and Have Spiritual Victory
- D. The Spiritual Saint Who Succumbs to Attack Becomes Carnal
- E. The Carnal Believer Is Easily Manipulated by Satan and Demons and by the Satanic World System

A SPIRITUAL CHRISTIAN MISDIRECTING LOVE TOWARD SATAN'S EVIL AGE – AN AGE LOVER

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2 Timothy 4:10

For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia (2 Tim. 4:10).

Premises: (1) In the Dispensation of Grace Only Spiritual Believers Can Emanate the Things of the Holy Spirit (πνευματικός) and So Possess Agape Love (ἀγάπη). (2) The Bible Teaches That There Is a Difference between an Age and a Dispensation. (3) The New Commandment for Christians Is That We Love One Another of the Same Kind. (4) Agape Love Can Be Misdirected toward the Present Evil Age.

Introduction

A. Love as a Part of the Singular Fruit of the Spirit

1. Gal. 5:22, 23 → The Fruit of the Spirit in a Single Fruit with Nine Parts
2. Love Is Identified by Jesus Christ in the Upper Room as "My Love" – John 15:9, 10
3. Love Is from God the Father – 1 Jn. 4:5 (ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ)
4. The New Commandment for the Christian in the Dispensation of Grace Is "Love One Another – 14 times in the New Testament
 - a. "As I Have Loved You" – Jn. 13:34, 35

³⁴ A new commandment I give unto you, That **ye love one another**; as I have loved you, that **ye also love one another**. ³⁵ By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if **ye have love one to another**

- b. "One Another" (ἀλλήλων) – Reciprocal Pronoun = One Another of the Same Kind

- c. John 15:17; 1 Jn. 3:11, 23; 4:7

^{NAU} Beloved, **let us love one another**, for **love is from God**; and everyone who **loves** is born of God and knows God (1 Jn. 4:7)

- d. The Only Way for a Christian to Love "As I Have Loved You" Is if God Provides a Quality of Divine Love!

B. The Identification of the "Now Age" in 2 Tim. 4:10

1. An Age Is Not a Dispensation nor Is a Dispensation an Age
 2. The Specific Age Is Determined by the Context in Which the Word Is Found
 3. Two Ages Are Operating Simultaneously Parallel with the Dispensation of Grace
- C. The Importance of the Differences between Ages and Dispensation
1. Both Are Revelatory Only They Reveal Different Things
 2. Both Are Designed by God in the Decree for Specific Purposes
 3. An Age Is a Period of Time in Which God Reveals Something about Himself to Created Beings – Theocentric
 4. A Dispensation It an Administration That Reveals Something to Man about Himself – Anthropocentric
- D. Satan and Demons Have Roles in the Two Present Ages—The Present Evil Age and the Legal Age

I. THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE AGE MENTIONED IN 2 TIMOTHY 4:10 – "THE NOW AGE"

A. "Now Age" Is Immediate in the Context as Present and Influencing Demas

B. The Technical Designation Is "The Present Evil Age" – Gal. 1:4

^{KJV} Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from **this present evil world** (lit. age), according to the will of God and our Father (Gal. 1:4):

^{NASB} Who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from **this present evil age**, according to the will of our God and Father (Gal. 1:4).

C. Other Designations

1. "The Now Age – Titus 2:12; 2 Tim. 4:10

2. This Age (context!) – 1 Cor. 2:6

D. Satan Is the god of This Age – 2 Cor. 4:4

E. The Present Evil Age Is Full of Lusts Coming from the Satanic World System – Tit. 2:12

F. The Present Evil Age Displays the Satanic World System – Eph. 2:2

II. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PRESENT EVIL AGE

A. It Is Malignantly Evil – *πονηρός* (*poneros*)

1. Satan Is the Malignantly Evil One – ex. Matt. 13:49; Jn. 17:15; 1 Jn. 5:19
2. It Spreads like a Disease or Metastasizes

B. It Has Its Own Wisdom That Is Antipodal to the Wisdom of God – 1 Cor. 2:6, 7

^{NASB} ⁶ Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature; a wisdom, however, not of **this age** nor of the rulers of **this age**, who are passing away; ⁷ but we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God predestined **before the ages** to our glory (1 Cor. 2:6, 7).

^{NKJ} ⁶ However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom **of this age**, nor of the rulers of this **age**, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God ordained **before the ages** for our glory,

1. God's Mysteries Are for Maturing Christians
2. The Mysteries Are Incomprehensible to the Wisdom of the Present Evil Age or Its Rulers
3. The Wisdom of God Is Incompatible with the Wisdom of the Age
4. Wisdom Involves Taking What One Knows and Understanding It and Then Properly Applying It in a Given Situation. (No wonder those living by this age are such a mess.)

C. It Is Characterized by Darkness – Eph. 6:12

^{NKJ} **Ephesians 6:12** For we do not wrestle 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* (Eph. 6:12).

1. Darkness Is the Absence of the Manifestation of the Life of God
2. The Age Wants Nothing to Do with the Life of God

D. The Parallelism of the Ages Extant Today

1. The Present Evil Age Came into Being at the Cross Work of Christ
2. The Legal Age Began at the Presumption of Israel at Mount Sinai and the First Giving of the Law
3. Both Ages End as Jesus Christ's Second Coming to Earth at the End of Daniel's 70th Week
4. They Are Presently Simultaneous

E. The Components of the Present Evil Age

1. God Uses the Present Evil Age as a Basis for Comparison of That Which Is Unlike His Character

2. God Uses the Present Evil Age to Bring Attention to Certain Parts of His Perfect Being
3. God Uses the Present Evil Age to Build a Proof for His Righteous Judgment

III. DEMAS WAS A SPIRITUAL BELIEVER WHO MISDIRECTED HIS AGAPE LOVE TOWARD THE PRESENT EVIL AGE AND ABANDONED PAUL BECAUSE OF IT

– 2 Timothy 4:10

^{DARBY} For Demas has forsaken me, **having loved the present age**, and is gone to Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia (2 Tim. 4:10).

- A. Demas Is Mentioned Three Times in the New Testament – Col. 4:14; 2 Tim. 4:10 and Philemon 24
- B. Demas Abandoned, Forsook or Deserted Paul (2nd Aorist Active Indicative 3rd singular)
- C. At That Point in Time He Loved this Present Age (1st Aorist Active Participle)
- D. He Was Made to Go to Thessalonica (1st Aorist Passive Indicative)

IV. THE GRACE OF GOD CHILD TRAINS CHRISTIANS HOW TO LIVE IN THE PRESENT EVIL AGE – Titus 2:12

^{NKJ} For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly **in the present age** (Titus 2:12).

- A. Grace Has Appeared
- B. Child Training Us
 1. To Say No to Ungodliness
 2. To Say Not to Worldly Lusts
- C. To Live (1st Aorist Active Subjunctive)
 1. With a Saving Frame of Mind = Sensibly
 2. Righteously
 3. Godly = Living Out the Life of God in Our Human Nature
 4. In the Present Age

Conclusion

- A. An Age Lover Loves the Present Evil Age Which Is Controlled by Satan

- B. An Age Lover Loves That Which Brings Him / Her Under the Influence of Satan
- C. The Present Evil Age Approaches the Christian through Its Wisdom toward Which He / She Directs Agape Love
- D. The Direction of the Christian's Life Is Altered Usually Making Him / Her Carnal
- E. The Wisdom of This Age Is the Wisdom of Men and the Rulers of This Age (1 Cor. 2:5, 6)

**A CHRISTIAN PUTTING ON AN APPEARANCE FOR GOD FROM THE LEGAL AGE
– THE AGE CONFORMER**

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Romans 12:1, 2

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And be not **conformed** to **this world** (*lit. this age*): but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God (Rom. 12:1, 2).

Premises: (1) "This Age" Is the Legal Age and Not the Present Evil Age. (2) An Age Conformer Is a Christian Who Lives by the Mosaic Law or Any Law Seeking to Impress God. (3) Satan's Temptation "You Will Be Like Elohim (God)" Makes the Impression That Humans Have the Innate Ability to Show an Acceptable Righteousness before Him. (4) The Belief That Some Human Works in Themselves Are Righteous before God is True Legalism.

Introduction

- A. The Confusion from the Erroneous King James Translation "World"
 1. The Greek Word for "World" Is Normally Cosmos (κοσμος)
 2. The Greek Word Here Is "Age" (αἰών)
 3. There Is No Textual Problem with This Word Rather It Is a Bad Translation
- B. The Confusion Concerning the "Age" Involved Here
 1. This Is Not the Present Evil Age
 2. This Is the Legal Age (cf. Context!)
- C. The Consequences of the Problems with the Text
 1. This Became a Traditional Passage for Preaching against "Worldliness"
 2. These Verses Were Preached concerning the Present Evil Age
 3. These Verses Exemplified Disregard for the Rule of Context
- D. The Conformity to the Legal Age Has Been "Sanctified" among Christians
 1. The Legal Age and Its Legalism Has an Influence on Many Christians Today

2. The Legal Age Imposes a Disregard for God's Grace and Grace Revelation
3. The Legal Age Involves Substituting Works for God's Gracious Provisions for Present Tense Salvation
 - a. Age Conformity Is Putting On an Appearance That Is Not Part of God's Present Program
 - b. Present Tense Salvation Is Not Earned by Works Any More Than Past Tense or Future Tense Salvation
 - c. Age Conformity Places the Responsibility on the Christian Rather Than Permitting the Holy Spirit to Do His Work of Sanctification

E. The Confidence of the Age Conformer Reflects the Presumption of Israel at Sinai
And all the people answered together, and said, **All that the LORD hath spoken we will do.** And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD (Ex. 19:8).

I. WHICH AGE? – THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CONTEXT FOR IDENTIFYING THE AGE

A. The Development of the Book of Romans

1. The Structure of the Book of Romans – An Outline

a. Chapters 1-8 – The Righteousness of God Manifested in Salvation

(1) Made Possible by Condemnation – 1:18-3:21

(2) Made Personal by Justification – 3:21-5:21

(3) Made Practical by Sanctification – 6:1-8:39

b. Chapters 9-11 – The Righteousness of God Illustrated in the Dispensation of Law

(1) God's Past Selection of Israel – 9:1-33

(2) God's Present Setting Aside of Israel – 10:1-21

(3) God's Prospective Salvation for Israel – 11:1-36

c. Chapters 12-16 – The Righteousness of God Manifested in Present Tense Salvation

2. The Significance of Chapters 9-11 Using Israel in the Dispensation of Law as an Illustration of the Righteous Dealing of God with the Nation

B. The Demands from the Significance of Specific Words for Identifying the Age in Rom. 12:1, 2

1. "Therefore" (οὖν) – An Inferential Particle That Connects to the Previous Context

That Can Be Translated "Therefore, Consequently, Accordingly" → Ties Directly to the Preceding Three Chapters (Rom. 9-11)

2. "This Age" (τούτω) – A Near Demonstrative Pronoun
 - a. There Is No Reference to the Present Evil Age in the Preceding Three Chapters
 - b. Every Reference Relates to Israel and the Legal Age

II. STOP! – THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PHRASE "STOP BEING CONFORMED TO THIS AGE – Romans 12:2a

A. And Stop! – Prohibitive Imperative – Stop Doing Something You Are Doing

B. Being Conformed – συσχηματίζω (*suschematidzo*) – 2 times in the NT

1. Present Tense – Continuous Action

2. Passive Voice – Someone Else Acts on the Believer – Satan and Demons

C. The Core Concept

1. To Have an Appearance or Fashion Relating to the Legal Age or a Law

2. To Put on an Outward Appearance or Likeness

3. To Allow Oneself to Be Changed to Be Made Like or Have the Appearance in Accordance with a Particular Set of Standards

4. Putting Together an Appearance That Is Not an Inward Reality

5. 1 Peter 1:14: As obedient children, **not fashioning yourselves** according to the former lusts in your ignorance (1 Pe. 1:14).

D. Related Forms Conveying the Basic Concept

1. The Root σχῆμα (*schema*) {2x in NT} Example is 1 Cor. 7:31

And they that use this world, as not abusing *it*: for the **fashion** of this world passeth away (1 Cor. 7:31).

2. The Compound Verb μετασχηματίζω (*metaschematidzo*) {5x in NT} – 2 Cor. 11:13-15 {3x}

¹³ For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, **transforming themselves** into the apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no marvel; for Satan himself **is transformed** into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also **be transformed** as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works (2 Cor. 11:13-15).

E. The Result in the Life of the Believer

1. Attempts to Live Legal Principles for Israel or Others Rather Than Enjoy Provisions of Grace

2. The Actual Life Contradicts Grace Revelation for Present Tense Salvation

3. The Attempted Demonstration of Personal Righteousness to a Righteous God

III. BE TRANSFORMED – THE OPTION TO BEING CONFORMED TO THE LEGAL AGE – Romans 12:2

A. Be Transformed – the Verb Form

1. Present Tense – Continually Be Transformed
2. Passive Voice – The Holy Spirit Acts on the Believer
3. Imperative Mood – Strongly Encouraged

B. The Actual Verb and Its Meaning – μεταμορφόω (*metamorphoo*) – 3x in NT

1. Its Composition – μετά (change) + μορφόω (in form) – English Metamorphosis
2. Its Meaning: To Have An Inward Change of Form or Nature, To Be Transformed
3. Translated "Transfigured" of Christ in Matt. 17:2 and Mk. 9:2

C. The Mechanism Is the Renewedness of the Mind – τῆ ἀνακαινώσει τοῦ νοῦς (*te anakainosai tou noos*)

Conclusion

- A. The Age Conformer Is Attempting to Justify Himself or Herself before **God** by Keeping the Law
- B. The Age Conformer Is Under the Influence of the Legal Age or Some Form of Law
- C. The Age Conformer May Establish a Law Principle for Himself by Which He Intends to Please God
- D. The Age Conformer Attempts to Do Something that Christ Has Already Done and Is Frustrated as a Result.

A CHRISTIAN WHO DOES THE DESIROUS WILL OF SATAN LIKE THE WILL OF GOD – THE ENSNARED CHRISTIAN

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2 Timothy 2:26

^{NKJ} And *that* they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will (2 Tim. 2:26).

Premises: (1) A Christian Cannot Be Indwelt by Satan or Demons. (2) Satan and Demons Externally Attack the Christian. (3) The Primary Attack of Satan and Demons Is on the Christian's Mind. (4) The Worse Satan Can Do to a Christian Is to Ensnare and Make Him or Her His Tool. (5) Satan Must Have Divine Permission to Attack a Believer.

Introduction

- A. The Devil Baits the Christian's Mind with Thoughts That Can Trap Him or Her
- B. The Devil Live Traps the Christian Who Has Taken the Bait
- C. This Is Satanic or Demonic Ensnarement
- D. The Believer Actually Becomes a Tool of the Devil Doing the Devil's Desirous Will Like He or She Would Do God's Desirous Will
- E. The Believer In Incapable of Controlling Himself or Herself
 - 1. Cannot Escape by One's Own Ability
 - 2. Needs Divine Intervention to Be Released
- F. A Believer Cannot Be Demon or Satanically Indwelt
 - 1. Greater Is He That Is in You than He That Is in the World – 1 Jn. 4:4
 - 2. The Evil One Can Not Touch the Child of God – 1 Jn. 5:18

I. THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE ENSNARED BELIEVER TO RETURN TO HIS OR HER SPIRITUAL SENSES OR SOBRIETY AGAIN – 2 Timothy 2:26a

- A. The Confusion Evident in English Translations
 - 1. AV – "that they may recover themselves"
 - 2. Darby – "that they may awake"

3. NKJ, ESV and NASB – "that they may come to their senses *and escape*"
 4. RSV and NRSV – "they may escape"
 5. There Is No Reflexive Pronoun "Themselves" in the Verse
 - a. They Can't
 - b. They Won't Want to
- B. The Instruction from the Verb Form
1. 1st Aorist Tense – At Some Point in Time
 2. Active Voice – Arrive at a Previous Action
 3. Subjunctive Mood – It Is Possible Whether Likely or Not
- C. The Definition of the Compound Verb Which Is Only Found Here in the NT
1. The Composition of ἀνανήφω (*ananepho*)
 - a. ἀνά (*ana*) = preposition meaning "again"
 - b. νήφω (*nepho*) = to be sober, to be clear headed, to be controlled by one's mind"
 2. The Meaning = "to be sober again, to return to one's senses, to regain a proper state of mind"
 3. It Does Not Mean
 - a. "To have or get over a hangover" – It is not a process (aorist)
 - b. "To escape by one's ability or rationale"
- D. The Divine Expectation of Soberness before Satanic Attack ("be sober" – 6x in NT)
1. Gird Up the Loins of Your Mind, Be Sober – 1 Pe. 1:13
 2. Believer Is to Exercise a Saving Frame of Mind and Sobriety for Worship Because the End Is Near – 1 Pe. 4:7
 3. Be Sober, Be Vigilant for Your Adversary the Devil" – 1 Pe. 5:8

II. THE EMPLOYMENT OF EXTERNAL MECHANISMS TO DEFEAT THE CHRISTIAN – THE TRAP OR SNARE – 2 Tim. 2:26b

- A. The External Struggle of Wrestling – Eph. 6:12
1. Not with Flesh and Blood

2. But with Spirit Beings
- B. The External Shooting of Fiery Arrows or Darts – Eph. 6:12
 1. Arrows or Darts Lit on Fire
 2. Of the Evil One
- C. The Snare of the Devil
 1. 1 Tim. 3:7: Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall (2nd aorist active subjunctive) into reproach and the **snare (anarthrous) of the devil**.
 2. 2 Tim. 2:26: Out of the snare of the devil,
 3. A Snare Is a Baited Trap Designed to Catch and Secure Its Unsuspecting Victim
 4. Most Often Used of Bird Traps

III. THE APPREHENSION OF A LIVING VICTIM BY SATAN INTO HIS DESIROUS WILL– 2 Timothy 2:26c

- A. These Are Captured Alive – ζωγρέω (*zogreo*)
 1. ζώος (alive) + and ἀγρέω (trap or catch)
 2. They Are at the Mercy of Their Captor
- B. By Him = the Devil
- C. Into His Will (or the Will of That One)
 1. Do the Desirous Will of Satan
 2. Like a Spiritual Believer Would Do the Will of God
 3. Three Prepositions Of Importance Here
 - a. ἐκ (*ek*) – Out of the Snare
 - b. ἀπό (*apo*) – Caught Alive by Him
 - c. εἰς (*eis*) – Into the Will of Satan

IV. SOME ILLUSTRATIONS OF SATANIC ENSNAREMENT AND A BELIEVER BEING A TOOL OF SATAN – 2 Tim. 2:26

- A. The Revision of Biblical Truth by Speech – 2 Tim. 2:17-25

- B. The Falling into Reproach by a Bad Testimony – 1 Tim. 3:7
- C. Those Who Want to Get Rich Fall into Temptation and a Snare – 1 Tim. 6:9
- D. Those Who Assist the Devil in Sowing Tares with an Inaccurate Gospel – Matt. 13:24-30; 36-43
 - 1. The Evil One = the Devil – 13:38, 39
 - 2. The Enemy Man – Greek Text in 13:28
 - 3. Satan's Assistants Are Tareists!
- E. Was the Messenger or Pastor in Laodicea a Tareist?
 - 1. Rev. 3:14
 - 2. Unbelieving Church as a Whole

CONCLUSION

- A. The Ensnared Believer Is Controlled by Satan from Outside. He Is Obsessed by Satan and Not Possessed by Satan or a Demon. He is Surrounded by Satan.
- B. The Ensnared Believer Actually Becomes a Tool of Satan by Virtue of the Fact That He Does What Satan Wills (θέλω).
- C. The Ensnared Believer Has Been Taken Captive by Satan in a Similar Manner as an Animal Is Ensnared.
- D. The Truth of Scripture Does Not Penetrate the Trap of Satan.
- E. The Ensnared Believer Is Unable to Do Anything Other Than Satan's Will.