

Which Side are you Serving? Romans 6

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday April 6th

Last week we discussed that when we rationalize our disobedience to God (His will and word), We: Fall for Satan's original lie (Gen. 3:1-5); Re-imagine, Redefine or Replace God (Ro 1); and Corrupt our mind and ability to think clearly. (Ro. 1:21-25)

This mind manipulation involves a 3-fold attack coming from: Self delusion/absorption (Jer 17:9; Ro. 7:14-25; Societal dilution/deterioration (Ro. 12:2; 2 Cor 10:12,13; 1 Jn 2:15,16; 5:19)

And Satanic deception 2 Cor 11:3, 13-15; 2 Cor 4:4) These work together to "morph our minds" such that we partner with Satan's "devices." {noema: mind/purpose} see 2 Cor 2:11

These work against us to distort our minds (reasoning) to such a degree that most are unaware of the battle raging in their minds, and how they work to "spoil us". (Col. 2:8)

As such, most become casualties of a war that they are not even aware of! (Eph. 5:14-17; 6:10-18; 2 Tim. 2:3,4) and end up in the "*Snare of the devil*" (2 Tim 2:26)

1. Notice How Satan attempted to spoil Jesus through:

A. Self Indulgence. (His Passion/appetite) Mt 4:3

1) Use your power to satisfy/benefit yourself. Vs 3

B. Self aggrandizement. (His Pride) vs 5,6

1) Use your authority to impress the people.

C. Self Promotion. 8,9 (His Position/Authority)

1) He literally "offered him the world" 4:8,9 "*all these will I give thee, if thou worship me!*"

Each of these temptations were designed to get Jesus to focus on himself (His earthly/temporary pleasure/ priorities) instead of God's!
Satan does the same thing to us! (1 Jn 2:15,16)

2. Notice How Jesus defeated Satan.

A. He Knew the Father's Nature, *therefore he could trust his Will.* Luke 23:46

B. He knew the devil's nature, *therefore he knew he couldn't trust Him.*

Jn 8:44; 10:10; Mt 4:10 "*Get thee behind me Satan*" (adversary)

C. He knew the word of God, *therefore he could fight back.* (Jms 4:7,8)

"It is written..." Mt 4:4, 7, 10; Ps 119:11; Eph. 6:16-17; Heb 4:12

3. Notice the focus of Jesus' ministry! Mt 4:17 "*From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent (metanoēō: think differently!) for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*"

So...Stop focusing on your Kingdom and "*Prepare to meet thy God!*" Amos 4:12

A. Why should we "deny ourself" (Mt 16:24; Mk 8:34; Lk 9:23) instead of pursuing our own Kingdoms? (*priorities, values, desires*)

1) Because our personal Kingdoms are really under Satan's dominion! Luke 4:6

"All this power will I give thee, ...for that is delivered unto me; ..." (paradidōmi: surrendered, yielded)

a) Who surrendered such authority to Satan? Jn 8:34 "*Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.*"

- b) Do you think they really understood this? Why not? 2 Cor 3:14,15; 2 Cor 4:4
 c) Do we really understand this?

B. Jesus came to redeem us. Is 61:1-3; Lk 4; Col. 1:12,13 *“Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power (exousia: authority) of darkness, (skotos: blindness, ignorance)*
 1) Making us free! 13b *“and translated us into the kingdom (basilei’a: royalty, rule, realm) of his dear Son:”*

Conclusion:

1. What would have happened if Jesus had yielded to Satan’s temptations?
 - He could no longer be the spotless *“lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.”* Jn 1:29
 - He would have placed himself (and all creation) under the power of Satan. Ro. 6, Jn 8:34
2. What happens if/when we yield to Satan’s temptations? (Ro 6:15-22) *“What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid! Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves ... his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”*

Jesus came to redeem us.

17 *“But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. (The gospel! Ro. 10:9-13) 18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. Ro 6:19 “I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. 20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness . 21 What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. John 8:31-36 “If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. . . . They answered him, We be Abraham’s seed, and were never in bondage! Jesus answered Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. . . . If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”*

- Free from What? Ro 6:22 *“But now being made free from sin,*
- Free For What? 6:22b *“and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end (telos: result) everlasting life.”*

When does our “Everlasting Life” begin? (Jn 3:36; 1 Jn 5:11-13; 1 Jn 1:1-3)
 What are you doing with it? (Eph. 5:8-17)

Application: We overcome Satan the same way Jesus did.

- 1) Knowing the Father’s Nature so we can trust Him. 1 Jn 4:8; Heb 13:5
- 2) Knowing the devil’s nature so we recognize his lies. (Jn 8:44; 10:10a)
- 3) Knowing the word of God so we can resist him. (Eph. 6:17; James 4:7,8
“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.”

Joshua 24:15 *“Choose ye this day whom ye will serve. . . .”*

1 Kings 18:21 *“How long halt ye between two opinions, if God is God, then serve him.”*

Which King and Kingdom are you serving? (2 Timothy 2)