



## **Witnessing, uh uh, not today**

September 2, 2019

**MATTHEW 28:18-20 NKJV - (18)** And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **(19)** Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **(20)** teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

**GENESIS 3:1 NKJV - (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?'" **(DISTARCTION)**

**GENESIS 3:6 NKJV - (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 with her, and he ate. **(DECEPTION)**

**GENESIS 3:7-8 NKJV - (7)** Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. **(8)** And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. **(DECISION)**

One of the most sobering facts about life is that all humans have a supernatural enemy whose aim is to use pain and pleasure to make us blind, stupid, and miserable — forever. The Bible calls him "the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world . . . the accuser" (**Revelation 12:9-10**), "the ruler of this world" (**John 12:31**), and "the god of this age" (**2 Corinthians 4:4**).

He is our "adversary [who] prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (**1 Peter 5:8**). Yet, in the most appalling and unwitting bondage, the whole world willingly "follows the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience" (**Ephesians 2:2**). At his most successful, his subjects march obliviously to destruction, and take as many with them as they can.

I recall a day where my wife and I were going out to witness to the people. I could hear Satan so clear in my head, "Witnessing, uh uh, not today." His goal was for me not even get out the door! Now let me inform you of the three schemes of the enemy.

1) **DISTRACTION** – my wife was feeling very ill that morning and of course I grew overly concerned. She took some medication and there were side effects. She decided to lay down and try to rest (sleep). I was distracted, but my wife assured me that all would be well and the effects of the medicine was taking place and the doctor told her this was part of the process. She told me to go out and witness and she would be o.k. I was distracted and witnessing was last on my mind! But my wife told me that this was all part of the healing.

2) **DECEPTION** – Now Satan reminded me that you and your wife are off tomorrow. Why don't you go then? But I can hear the Holy Spirit say to me, because the one I want you to speak to may not see tomorrow. Satan wanted me to forget what was important! And what was important was now!

3) **DECISION** – I got up and went out as instructed. There are those who would fall for the distraction and deception. They are the ones who make the wrong decisions.

Its simple people, **JOHN 10:10** tells us Satan's entire purpose and plan for you and I. If he tried it with Jesus, don't think you are an exception. Satan doesn't want you talking to **NOBODY** about God!

**SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 55:11**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** Yes, let God be the Judge. Your job today is to be a witness.