

HOW THE ENEMY COMES TO MEN

Genesis 3:1-7



The devil interacts with humans for the first time in Genesis chapter 3, revealing his operation method. He is obviously cunning in his behaviour, and as he is the father of lies, nothing he says can be believed to be truthful. To get into your head, he twists and corrupts the truth. The devil has a history of lying and will utilise the existing 'truth' to win your confidence and exert control over it. Controversy is a tool that the devil uses to prevent God's people from accessing His truths. He is a crafty liar and deceitful thief, so we have to base what we believe on the Scriptures and test everything against it.

These scriptures make it clear that the devil's first move is to distort your perception by corrupting your VISION. The woman saw that the tree was good for food and was pleasing to the eyes, according to Genesis 3:6a. According to Eve's blurred vision, the forbidden fruit started to look delicious.

Second, he corrupts your sense of APPRECIATION, causing you to start placing value on things that previously had none. 'A tree excellent to make one wise,' says Genesis 3:6b.

Afterwards, he twists your INTERESTS and DESIRES by corrupting them; you begin to consider any potential benefits you might make. And finally, Satan taints your influence, causing people who are close to you to turn against God and perish alongside you. Observe how Eve also gave Adam after consuming the fruit [Genesis 3:6c].

As humanity fell in Genesis 3, there is a succession of events regarding how one falls. Sin causes you to rationalise your misbehaviour and

look for solutions and covers for it. When Adam and Eve realised what they had done, they searched for leaves to hide their nakedness. You are driven from God's presence by sin. Adam was the one who left God's presence, not the other way around. This is why God asked, "Adam, where are you?" Adam, not God, was the one who left. When you sin, you often try to avoid God and even the Christian community.

The devil will always be present, just as he was in the garden, and temptation will always be present because we live in a fallen world. He makes disobedience desirable through deception so that your heart grows distant from God. And those who lack knowledge will be taken in by his tricks.

Although ignorance can be costly, thank God we are not of this world. Living differently results from being aware of who you are as a child of God. You may react with assurance whenever the devil tempts you because you are aware of what God stated. Therefore, since the devil never gives up trying, the solution isn't in driving him away. The key to the problem lies in being conscious of your identity. The truth is what liberates you. If you don't know the truth, you might fall into the devil's trap immediately after prayer. However, you can withstand the devil when you firmly believe in the truth (found in God's word).

Proverbs 4:20-22 [NKJV]

"My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh."

The Bible is the only thing that *deserves* all your attention. Words bring images, so it's essential to allow the word of God to create an image in you. Let God's word stay in your heart and form an image when you read the Bible. The power of God's word even has the potential to improve your health.

Proverbs 4:23 [NKJV] says, "Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life." What is the heart that you ought to protect so fiercely? It is your thoughts. The Word of God is the best thing you can put in your heart to give it greater images and protect it. By watching over your gates, you protect your heart. Keep an eye on what you let in. Do not accept any non-God-related thoughts. As a believer, you have the right and capacity to reject ideas that are not in line with God. Don't entertain anything hostile to God's word. Let God's word dominate your thoughts, and you'll see how the devil's schemes won't work on you.

