

Eisenhower Church of Christ

A Decent Devil? (Part 1)

“It is notable that nearly all the poisonous fungi are scarlet or speckled and the wholesome ones brown or grey, as if to show us that things rising out of darkness and decay are always most deadly when they are well dressed”. —Ruskin

Some people think that if you believe in the devil, you never really graduated from childhood. Or as one put it, “Belief in a personal Satan is part of mankind’s nursery furniture.” Others believe in a quasi-devil who is really not as bad as everybody makes him out to be. He’s pictured as a red-suited, pointed-homed, long-tailed, fun-loving cartoon character in Hollywood films and *Saturday Night Live* skits. The bible, however, is not unclear about his existence or evil intentions. It should be enough to say that Jesus acknowledged Satan and talked often of him (e.g., Mt 25:41; Jn. 8:44). Satan is found in the Bible 55 times (19 times in the Old Testament; 36 in the New Testament). Devil is found 59 times (all in the NT). Analyzing these texts gives us much detail about our enemy.

NATURE: WHAT IS SATAN LIKE?

He is a slanderer (Job 1:7-8; Ps. 109:6). Devil means “slanderer” or “accuser.” He slandered Job, but take heart, God defended him. When Satan accuses us as Christians before God or to ourselves, we should remember that Jesus defends us as our Advocate in heaven. A faithful Christian’s case is in good hands (I Jn. 2:1-2; Romans 8:31-39; Rev. 12:10)!

He is a counterfeiter of God (Mt. 13:24-30, 36-43; 2 Cor. 11:13-15). He seeks to confuse us, and one of the easiest ways is to duplicate—with significant but hard to notice changes— God’s creations. In the parable of the tares, the enemy (Satan) sows tares (a poisonous plant that looks like wheat) among the farmer’s wheat (God’s world). Satan is in the religion business! He has counterfeit gods, counterfeit religions, counterfeit Bibles, counterfeit churches, and counterfeit preachers. He might prefer that we all become atheists, but he is content with us being idolaters or participants in false religions. The only way to determine the difference between the genuine and the fake is to shine the light of God’s Word upon it in careful examination (Thess.5:21; I Jn. 4:1).

He is a liar, deceiver, and murderer (Jn. 8:44). Since Eden, he has been lying to us, and since he introduced death into the world, he has (indirectly) brought it to every person who has lived, starting with Adam and Eve (except Enoch and Elijah and those living presently). Paul warned, “*But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ*” (2 Cor. 11:3).

He is the ruler of this world (Jn. 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; I Jn. 5:19) ***and the god of this age*** (2 Cor. 4:4). He has more followers presently than God does (Mt. 7:13-14). In fact, the only times the “good guys” have outnumbered the “bad guys” were when Adam stepped into the Garden and When Noah stepped off the boat. Yet, when God is ready to enforce His will, Satan will bow as will the knee of his every devotee (Rev. 22:2-3; cf. Rom. 14:11; Phil. 2:10).

He is our adversary (I Pet. 5:8-9). The word Satan means “adversary.” Though we do not see him, he is there laying traps for us (2 Tim. 2:24). Paul explained, “*Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places*” (Eph. 6:11-12).

He is a destroyer (Rev. 9:11; Abaddon means “destruction.”) It is his goal to wreck every couple’s marriage, every person’s health, every mind’s sanity, every heart’s peace, every maiden’s virtue, every friendship’s bond, every good work’s capability, every servant’s ministry, every church’s harmony, every sermon’s effectiveness and every soul’s destiny.

—Allen Webster
Part 2 next week

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to the George Hoover family in the loss of **Juanita**. Juanita passed away Monday, April 16th in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. She had struggled with Alzheimer’s for a number of years. Her services were conducted there last week.

We also extend our sympathy to the family of **Alan Jeter** (a former member a few years ago) who passed away on April 11th at his daughter’s home. His services were held at 1:00 pm Wednesday, April 18th at Sherwood Church of Christ and burial took place at Sunset Memorial Gardens.

Prayer Requests

Bill Butler had a CT scan Monday to determine the situation with the cancer. He should get the results in about a week. Please keep Bill in your daily prayers.

Estella Morolez (a former member of Eisenhower) had to have surgery last week to open up and clean out the staph infection in her chest area caused by the wires from her heart surgery she had a few months ago. Estella was to go into wound care therapy afterwards. Please keep her in your prayers that all will go well and that she may be well soon.

Carolyn Wilkerson has requested prayers for **Shirley Harvey** who is a friend. Shirley was taken to the hospital last week.

Prayers have been requested for **Sherry Cox** (a former member of Sherwood Church of Christ). Sherry lives in Crane and has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer.

Concerns Update

It was good to see both **Jimmy Weaver** and **Bill Butler** at worship services last Sunday.

Maxine Newton’s new mailing address is posted on the bulletin board. We would like to encourage our members to send her a card letting her know that she is missed and in our prayers always.

Prayer List

Tom Bauer; Elsie Bradford; Bill Butler; David Castor; Beth Clay; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Glenda Driver; Verona Dykes; Dana Erwin; John Ford; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; David Guynn; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambricht; Glenda Hillis; Janis Laminack; Betty Leeth; Eliseo Lopez; Russ Montgomery; Tanya Nichols; Curtis Parum; Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Elvia Ruckman; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Laura Vasquez; Jurlean Warren; Doris Weakland; Jimmy Weaver; Lisa Wells; Janet Wesson; Wanda Wheeler; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; John Wood; Jack Wright.

Eisenhower’s Shut-ins

Jennie Fuls; Roberta Hamil; Janis Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley; and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Is it true or false that Abraham paid tithes to a man who the writer of Hebrews declared that “he had no father and no mother, a man who had no beginning of days or end of life?”

Last Week’s Bible Quiz Answer...

When asked, “Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?” The disciples’ answer to the Apostle Paul was (3) “We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.”

Events

Watch “*In Search of the Lord’s Way*” every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the “**Speaking the Truth in Love**” program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Office News

The “**New Mexico Children’s Home**” will be back in Odessa June 5th, 2018. They are requesting **55 Gallon Trash Bags**. Monetary donations also accepted.

Note:

John and Sonia Wood will host a “**Family Devotional**” next Sunday following our evening service. It will be held in Room C-5. Please check with Sonia for food items requested.

Invitation

The Gardendale Church of Christ is hosting a “**Ladies Day**” Saturday, May 12th from 11:30-2:00 with Dr. LeeAnne Lowrie as guest speaker. Please RSVP by May 1st. Lunch will be served. All our ladies at Eisenhower are invited.

Food for Thought...

Those frightened by the shadow of a doubt don’t have a ghost of a chance.

If prayer does not remove the mountain then climb it.

April 22nd, 2018	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	John Wood	Rudy Ochoa
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Richard Siler	Josh Weakland
Second Prayer	Bill Tolbert	Charles Wood
Closing Prayer	Josh Wells	John Wood
Lord's Supper		
West...	George Warren	Chris Butler
	Gary Loving	Communion
	Tommy Garcia	(In Library)
East...	Tom Sorenson	
	Scot Straw	
	Richard Siler	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson—561-5302 *Deacon*: Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 *Pulpit*: Bill Brown 703-6225 *Table*: Chris Butler 362-7486 *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties*: Don Easlon 288-5834 *Collections*: Don Easlon 288-5834

Sunday AM

"Decisions to be Made"

(Joshua 24:15)

Sunday PM

"Jesus Our Shepherd"

(Hebrews 13:20-21)

Our Records

Bible Class... 61

Morning Worship...101

Evening Worship...84

Wednesday...71

Contribution...\$4,378.00