

The Evil of Satan

What is it about Satan that makes him so dangerous? Why are we always warned about him?

1. When Jesus responds to Jewish teachers who challenge Him, what do you learn about Satan from His comments?

Why don't you understand what I say? Because you cannot listen to my word. You are of your father the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks from his own nature, because he is a liar and the father of lies. Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. (John 8:43-45, CSB)

2. What do you observe about the apostle John's warning?

We know that we are of God, and the whole world is under the sway of the evil one. (1 John 5:19, CSB)

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Teacher Notes

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Read the passage carefully and place an emphasis on key details. If the student can capably read, encourage him to circle key details to help him learn how to observe the text.

Ask the student: what is Jesus' explanation for why the Jewish teachers "cannot listen" to His word? Re-read the passage to the student to help him with his observation of the text.

Satan has deliberately deceived and contributed to the death of human beings early in their creation. Satan's deception Eve, resulting in Adam and Eve's disobedience to God, introduced death to all human beings.

Satan is a natural liar and does not tell the truth.

Satan has deceived Jewish teachers into believing his lies is the truth.

Those who believe Satan's version of the truth and acts upon them are considered children of the devil who carry out Satan's desires.

2. What do you observe about the apostle John's warning?

We know that we are of God, and the whole world is under the sway of the evil one. (1 John 5:19, CSB)

Ask the student: do you know what "sway" means? Be sure that the student understands all of the words of the passages you read to them.

"Sway" means to influence to change your behavior and character.

Satan's influence is significant. He influences the whole world with his lies and deceit! The truth about God and what is good and evil, right and wrong, is more difficult to learn.