

What Satan and His Demons Cannot Do

1. Study Job 1:6-12, 2:6 and Jude 1:6. What do these passages reveal to you about the limitation of Satan and his demons?

While Satan attempts to hamper God's work, he is limited by God.

While he may wish to be God, Satan has limited power. He remains answerable to God and cannot do anything without God's permission.

While he can tempt man, Satan has limited knowledge. He cannot know what is on one's mind or foretell the future.

While Satan is powerful, his power is limited. Satan is not equal to God, and he can only be in one place at one time.

2. Is Satan limited to afflicting only non-Christians? See Luke 13:16 and 1 Thessalonians 2:18.

There are a number of passages where the New Testament records demonic influences in the lives of Christians.

They included physical afflictions, worship practices, and false doctrine. So while Satan and his demons may afflict Christians, there may be varying degrees of that demonic attack or influence.

3. Examine the following Bible passages to understand what attitudes a Christian should have towards Satan and his demons.

A. See Jude 1:8-9.

Christians should not treat the demonic realm with contempt. Open disdain or scorn are attitudes that makes one susceptible to sin. It was by Christ's atonement that defeated Satan and his demons; not by any effort by mankind.

B. See Job 1:12 and 2:6.

Christians should know that Satan is limited in power, knowledge, and location. Satan and his demons are not everywhere and may not always be the cause of one's afflictions.

C. See John 17:15, Hebrews 2:14-15, and 1 John 2:14.

Christians should not forget that they are protected by Jesus Christ's atonement and Word. There is great comfort in knowing that God protects His own.

D. See Luke 22:31, 1 Corinthians 5:5, 2 Corinthians 12:7, and 1 Timothy 1:20.

Christians should be aware that God uses Satan for discipline. Because God actively restrains Satan, God will not allow a Christian to be tempted beyond what he can bear (1 Cor 10:13). Faith in God can overcome Satan.

E. See Matthew 25:41, John 12:31, and Revelation 20:10.

Christians should know that Satan and his demons has been judged and defeated. God is sovereign.

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F. See Ephesians 4:27; 6:11-18; James 4:7, and 1 Peter 5:8-9.

Christians should resist Satan. A Christian's personal victory against Satan depends on one's will to resist demonic temptations. To help with this struggle, God has provided the power of Christ's blood (Rev 12:10-11), Christ's intercession (Heb 7:25), the leading of the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:16), and weapons for spiritual warfare (Eph 6:16-18).

G. See Matthew 6:13, Romans 16:20, 2 Thessalonians 3:3, and 1 John 3:8-10.

Christians should turn to God for deliverance from Satan. Regardless of how strong one's faith may be, Christians must not be confident in their own faith and abilities.

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