




## Be Strong in the Lord!

When a ship goes to sea, there are *three essential* questions its captain must address:

1. Why are we out here?  
Essential ethics
2. How do we keep from sinking?  
Individual ethics
3. How do we keep from bumping into other ships?  
Social ethics

## Schemes of the Devil




**Eph. 6:10,11** – “The Schemes of the *Devil*”

The only way we will be able to see the importance of each piece of the Armor is to first understand the enemy it was designed to withstand.

“I read your book [*Infantry Attacks*], Rommel! I read your book!” shouted Gen. Patton in the thick of the battle in North Africa.

Ever person who looks at life through reality will agree that something has gone horribly wrong!


## Schemes of the Devil



“We stand perplexed and stupefied before the phenomena of Marxism and Bolshevism because we know nothing about man or, at any rate, have only a lopsided and distorted picture of him. If we had self-knowledge, that would not be the case. We stand face to face with the terrible question of evil and do not even know what is before us, let alone what to pit against it. And even if we did know, we still could not understand how it could happen here.”

(Carl Jung, Swiss psychologist & psychiatrist)


## Schemes of the Devil



“What element is lacking so that with all our skill and all our knowledge we still find ourselves in the dark valley of discord and enmity? What is it that inhibits us from going forward together to enjoy the fruits of human endeavor and to reap the harvest of human experience? Why is it that, for all our professed ideals, our hopes, and our skills, peace on earth is still a distant objective seen only dimly through the storms and turmoils of our present difficulties?.”


(U Thant, former Secretary General of the United Nations)

## Schemes of the Devil



1. The only logical answer for *evil* in the world is the existence of a real realm of fallen spiritual beings.
  - 1993 Barna survey: 48% of “Christians” agreed that Satan is only symbolic or did not know!
  - The Bible speaks often of the Devil: seven books in the OT and every writer in the New Testament refers to Satan
  - Of the 29 NT references, **Jesus is speaking in 25 of them!**

## Schemes of the Devil



“It is one thing to describe an interview with a gorgon or a griffin, a creature who does not exist. It is another thing to discover that the rhinoceros does exist and then take pleasure in the fact that he looks as if he didn’t.”

(G.K. Chesterton, *Orthodoxy*)

## Schemes of the Devil

**2. Jesus treats Satan as a personal individual.**

- **Matthew 4:1-11** – “Be gone, Satan!” (v.10)
- **Luke 22:31,32** – Satan makes demands for us!
- The main argument against a literal devil amongst liberal theologians is that Jesus didn't believe it Himself, but was just going along with the superstitions and ignorance of His day.
- **Absolutely NOT! John 8:44,45;32;14:2,6;18:37**

**“I cannot agree with those optimistic people who try to dismiss Satan as a figment of the imagination. They are wrong. There is a real devil.” Tozer, *Jesus is Victor!***

## Schemes of the Devil

**3. Who is Satan?**

- Traditionally, there isn't a branch of *systematic theology* concerning him.
- He was created by Jesus – **Col. 1:16**
- We are given a glimpse into his history through two austere OT passages: **Isaiah 14:12-15** and **Ezekiel 28:11-19**
  - Though these passages are discussing individuals, they both move into very strange language, which most theologians agrees to be a revelation into the eternal through a temporal portal.
  - Jesus demonstrates this with Peter – **Matt. 16:23**

## Schemes of the Devil


**Systematic Theology**

- Bibliology** – study of the Bible, origins, authenticity, inspiration, inerrancy, revelation
- Patriology** – doctrine of the Father
- Christology** – doctrine of the Son
- Pneumatology** – doctrine of the Holy Spirit
- Soteriology** – doctrine of salvation
- Anthropology** – doctrine of humanity
- Hamartiology** – doctrine of sin
- Ecclesiology** – doctrine of the church, its role and nature
- Angelology** – doctrine of angels
- Eschatology** – doctrine of last things, future events
- Israelology** – doctrine of Israel

## Schemes of the Devil

**4. Ezekiel 28:11-19 – Satan was the chief reflector of God's glory.**

- **Satan is the wisest of all God's created beings (v.12)** – “seal of perfection, full of wisdom”
  - He probably used this wisdom to occupy the highest and most important post in the administration of the universe
- **He was the most beautiful of God's creatures (v.12)** – “perfect in beauty”
  - Precious stones are used to describe this (v.13)
  - Gems reflect light, but in the dark, gems are nothing. They do not glow themselves, but are brilliant when light shines on them.
  - **Exodus 28:17-21; Revelation 21:9-20**




## Schemes of the Devil

**1. First missing stone (Jacinth):** “belonging to the Name” or “reaching for the Name” or “calling on the Name”

**2. Second missing stone (Agate):** “to turn back” or “to repent” or “to be restored”

**3. Third missing stone (unknown):** “brothers together in teaching and training”



## Schemes of the Devil

**4. Ezekiel 28:11-19 – Satan was the chief reflector of God's glory. (continued)**

- **Satan was probably God's prime minister.**
  - He was to speak for God, administering the universe in God's name
  - He was to direct the worship and obedience of all created beings back to God.

**5. Isaiah 14:12-15 – The Five “I Wills” (LK.10:18)**

1. **“I will ascend into heaven”**
  - Satan wanted to take God's abode away from Him
  - **SELF-WILL**

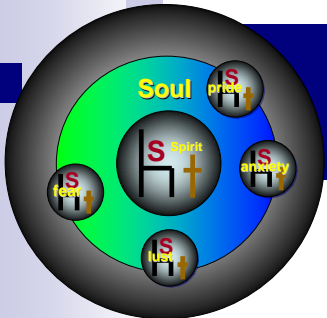
## Schemes of the Devil



**5. Isaiah 14:12-15 – The Five “I Wills” (cont.)**

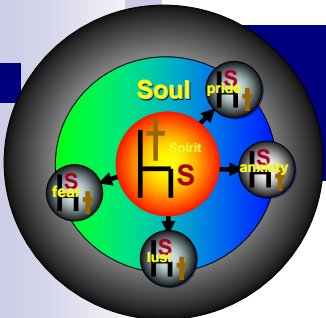
2. *“I will raise my throne above the stars of God”*
  - Satan wanted to rule over the angelic beings
  - **SELF-EXALTATION**
3. *“I will sit on the mount of assembly”*
  - Satan want to rule over the Earth
  - **SELF-ENTHRONEMENT**
4. *“I will ascend above the heights of the clouds”*
  - Satan wanted to displace God’s rule
  - **SELF-ASCENSION**
5. *“I will make myself like the Most High”*
  - (Satan wanted to be God!
  - **SELF-DEIFICATION**

## The Cross *in Me*



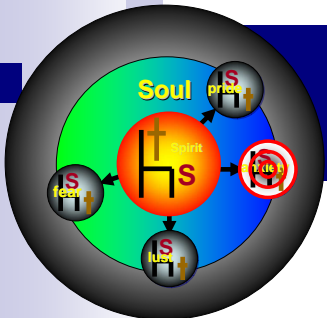
**In me**  
(self, flesh, sight):  
before coming to a  
saving faith of a  
life in Christ.

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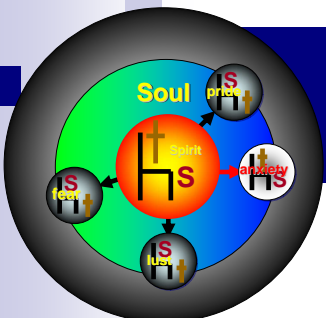
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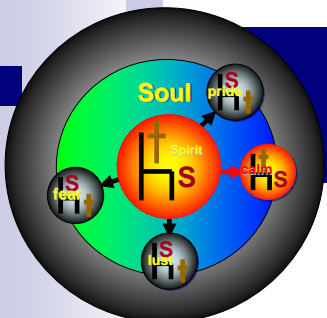
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## Schemes of the Devil




**Moses**  
Law  
Flesh  
Sight  
Rules

**The Cross**



**me**

**Resurrection**



**Jesus**  
Grace  
Spirit  
Faith  
Freedom

**2 Tim. 1:7**  
**John 12:30-32**  
**Revelation 20:10**

- What do I think?
- How do I feel?
- What do I want?
- What do I believe?

- What does He say?
- How does He feel?
- What does He want?
- What does He say is True?

**DEATH**

enviousness, guile, pride, jealousy, impure actions, anger, malice, blasphemy, boastfulness, covetousness, avarice, worrying, boasting, arrogant, glibness, excuses, factions

**LIFE**

peace, kindness, love, goodness, selflessness, generosity, honesty, trustworthiness, patience, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control

## Schemes of the Devil

**“The best way to keep the enemy out is to keep Christ in. The sheep need not be terrified by the wolf; they have but to stay close to the shepherd. It is not the praying sheep Satan fears but the presence of the shepherd.”**

*(A.W. Tozer Born after Midnight)*