

# The Demise of the Devil

By Dr. Kluane Spake

spake@mindspring.com ; www.kluane.org

The American church has little grasp of the full accomplishment of the cross. We practice strange religious superstitions and notions that have little to do with the redemptive truth that Jesus paid such a great price to obtain for us (Rev. 5:9). That TRUTH comes to us only as we identify with how Christ fully emancipated us.

Somehow we've lost the truth of how the early church interpreted much of the gospel letters that were written to them. Because we miss the point, we have become paralyzed by fears and false notions that are incompatible with the revelation of the "new creation" in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17, Eph. 2:19, 3:14-15, 1 Pet. 2:9). The TRUTH is, there's no TRUTH in the devil (Jn. 8:44, 1 Jn. 2:21). Rather, believers know the TRUTH (Jn. 8:32, 1 Tim. 2:4). TRUTH not only sets us free, it empowers us to walk in the light and to obtain God's likeness and image.

What must be remembered is that hostile governmental opposition and civil unrest bombarded the early church. They were arrested, imprisoned, beaten, tortured, and killed. They struggled against the overwhelming power of the Roman armies. Before his conversion, even Paul hauled off those Christian prisoners and tortured and killed them (Acts 9, 22:4, 26:10, Gal. 1:13). These believers had to fight the FIGHT of Faith against this factual, tangible enemy of great force and rank.

Why is it that today we misconstrue many of these scriptures about warfare? So many of us are bound by satan-centered activities. We've enlarged his strength, and in doing so, have given undue credit to the devil. Strangely, we think that we can wrestle long enough and loud enough to win over this wicked one. We think we can map him and have insight into his next moves. We even pray to him in the VERY SAME breath and sentences that we pray to God (yes, we do. I just heard a preacher open a meeting saying, "Thank you Lord for this service. And satan, we give you notice that you're bound from this meeting. And God we open our hearts to you.") &hellip; Then, you know what we do? We sing about the devil in our song services!!! We just really love to "kick da' devil"; --so dat' devil, he comes to church every time the door opens!

It seems that we enjoy making this a coequal kind of battle between God and ol' sloufoot. Let's just dance some more about it! Sometimes I wonder if would we even come to church if it weren't for the devil???? Oh friend, how we discredit the GREATEST VICTORY already won.

We just don't realize that these early Christians were mostly fighting the unbelieving armies OUTSIDE the church - not the devil WITHIN the believer's life and WITHIN the church. Dare we use this TRUTH, which our Savior purchased upon the Cross, FOR THE LIBERATION OF OUR SOULS???

In my years of ministry around the world, I've seen the worst demonic manifestations &ndash; both with believers and nonbelievers. My theology has changed over the years of dealing with this topic. Now a more accurate approach is clear&hellip; we must apprehend the FACT that the blood of Christ severs our tie with the devil. Any remaining personal weaknesses all result from an unredeemed thought life. All these negative emotional actions stem from memories of our Adamic nature. Habits of bad behavior. They cause us to be limited in our effect (see also Gal. 5:19). These emotions aren't fully conquered by "casting them out" &hellip; they must be OVERCOME by embracing and incorporating the fullness of God's Word.

"And then he (Jesus) added, "It is the THOUGHT-LIFE that pollutes. For from WITHIN, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts of lust, theft, murder, adultery, wanting what belongs to others, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, pride, and all other folly" (Mk. 7:20-23). Beloved, self-will is not a demon (Gal. 5:19). You're not going to get off that easy! Transformation requires that you must bring every THOUGHT into captivity. Don't just pray and wait for this to happen &ndash; do it! You and I must change (transform) our thoughts. Believe the Word. Act on it.

In spite of the fierce conflict of the early church, the great fight of faith was to identify with who Christ really was, and to acknowledge His triumph in spite of the circumstances. They didn't need to struggle to conquer an enemy that Christ had already defeated. Their single task was to carry their salvation message into the unbelieving world. That uncompromised Christian witness seemed foolish to those who watched them (1 Cor. 1:18).

Still, these valiant believers put on the whole armor of God (Eph. 6:11) and wrestled (by faith). They engaged in actual real warfare and against actual principalities. This ghastly Roman army was too enormous to fight with their flesh and

blood&hellip; their fight was spiritual. Their mission was to testify to the significance of the Gospel by living lives of unflinching other-centeredness -- even unto their death. They learned to overcome evil with good (Rom. 12:21).

Also during this time, much vain and deceptive teaching continued in the early church (Col. 2:8, 1 Tim. 4:1, 6:4-5, 2 Tim. 4:4, Tit. 1:10-11, 2 Pet. 2:1-3, Heb. 13:9). Now, our current Lexicons tell us the popular teaching that at the commencement of the Great Tribulation, satan's privilege of access to the believer will be terminated. That notion moves our living an overcoming life far off in the future. That thinking allows satan to rule the present day church and to distort facts with the same old vain and deceptive teachings! Listen, there are no new deceptions, just age-old schemes to lure us into unbelief.

Religious tradition keeps us begging and striving. It makes us feel guilty, full of self-pity, and justified by our repetitive sanctimonious routines. We hold onto religious tradition for dear life. The truth is&hellip; our habitual behavior and repeated acts that we don&rsquo;t think about actually suspend accurate discernment. Even our &ldquo;church&rdquo; pictures and imaginations of the devil aren&rsquo;t correct &hellip; most of these representations are derived from Etruscan art (and other early gods of non-Christian civilizations.) Can you see how the church has turned the serpent into the dragon&hellip; by giving him undue credit? Isaiah says that when we finally see this enemy, we&rsquo;ll laugh at how insignificant he really is.

Somehow, we&rsquo;ve allowed ourselves to believe in outmoded tradition and we have surrendered our objectivity. We believe what men thought God meant, rather than finding out what God said. Somehow, we believe that God is pleased with false humility &ndash; so we subject ourselves to false domination. Our churches are fixated with devil consciousness &ndash; obsessed with the perception of sin, preoccupied with dying to self (that&rsquo;s already dead). We&rsquo;ve become disillusioned by internal fighting, infatuated by our own hurts, and fanatical about how the devil has done it all.

The very bottom line is that Calvary delivered us from the power of Satan and the power of sin. Jesus entered His Passion &ndash; on His way to Calvary -- saying, &ldquo;NOW shall the prince of this world be cast out&rdquo; (Jn. 12:31). He understood and interpreted His cross experience as the downfall of satanic hierarchy. The apostle Paul declared this overthrow to be accomplished (Col. 2:15, see also Heb. 2:14).

The cross gives us the absolute answer, &ldquo;NOW (the culmination of all past) IS COME (#1) salvation, (#2) and strength, (#3) and the kingdom of our God, (#4) and the power of Christ; (why?) for our accuser (Satan) is cast down (hallelujah), who accused (past tense) us before God day and night. They overcame him (the dragon and his angels) by the blood of the Lamb (the cross) and by the word of their testimony (martyrdom)" (Rev. 12:10-12) NIV.

We are no longer deceived, influenced falsely, nor intimidated. The enemy is defeated. We OVERCOME by believing in the accomplishment of His blood sacrifice for us. Now, we OVERCOME -- forever activating the benefits of the cross. Nothing can touch the resurrected LIFE.

Jesus produced a NEW and better covenant&hellip; to LIVE in a heavenly realm right here on earth. There&rsquo;s no doubt about it. On earth as it is in heaven. Now. His Kingdom has come in us. Now--- we are mediators of this new covenant. We are at peace. In this realm of the New Creation, LOVE is the force that conquers all. Here, no enemy can stand &hellip; Jesus has overcome all things in us.

Jesus said that He saw satan fall as lightning (Lk. 10:18). Now, Jesus lives in us. Can we see what He sees??? Can we see satan as already fallen? After telling them this --- the VERY NEXT THING Jesus did was to give His authority to those who were listening. He delegated His authority (exousia &ndash; magistrate, superhuman potentate) over all power of the enemy (Luke 10:19). WOW! That means that nothing can harm us. All wickedness is subject to us because of His Name.

Briefly, let&rsquo;s look at some of the facts:

Before Jesus died, He told about the devil who came to steal, kill, and to destroy. (Jn. 10:10)

Then, JESUS DIED...

He was slain for our sin (Jn. 1:29, Rev. 5:9).

He died that we could live! (Jn. 14:19)

Now we are not guilty (Rom. 5:9).

He brought us salvation (rescue, safety, deliverance, forgiveness, protection, health, prosperity, preservation, freedom,

liberty, peace, righteousness, and victory -- Heb. 5:9, 1 Pet. 1:3-5, Eph. 6:17, Acts 4:10-12, etc).

He gave us His wisdom (1 Cor. 1:30) and His success (Col. 1:13-14, Eph. 1:20-21). We are brought into total companionship with God.

JESUS WON THE WAR &ndash; ALREADY (Rom 6:9-10).

He said it is FINISHED (Jn. 19:30).

He has the keys of hell and death (Rev. 1:18).

His death obtained eternal redemption for us (Heb. 9:11-12).

Now, there is no more death required (Heb. 10:18).

His blood was shed for the remission of our sins (Matt. 26:28, Jn. 1:29).

Through His death, we are presented holy, unblameable, and unproveable (Col. 1:22). God gives us victory (1 Cor. 15:37). We are Christ's (1 Cor. 3:21).

WE HAVE DIED WITH HIM yet we live (Gal. 2:20, Rom. 6:4-5). That means, we don't have to keep on dying to self. It's a done deal. All accusations are over because we were crucified with Christ, (Gal 2:20). All our worries, diseases, inabilities, lack, and failure are nailed to the cross (Col. 2:14). We are already buried with Him (Rom. 6:4).

WE WERE RAISED WITH HIM (Col. 2:12). We are justified with Him (Rom. 3:24, 5:1). We sit at the right hand of God with Christ (Eph. 2:6). The "New Creation" LIVES AND PRAYS FROM THIS RULING POSITION OF REST.

WE LIVE WITH HIM (2 Cor. 13:4, Gal. 2:20). We are passed from death to life (John 5:24). We are now ALIVE with Him (1 Cor. 15:22, Rom 6:11-12). Because HE lives, we also live (Jn. 14:19). His LIFE dwells in us (Jn. 3:36, 1 Jn. 5:12). WE share the same identical abundant LIFE that Jesus has (Gal. 4:6-7, Jn. 17:21-23).

We should be experiencing this vital resurrected life NOW. But, without transformation into this present truth, the Doctrine of demons (1 Tim. 4:1) still has preeminence. This demonic preoccupation is part of "the law of sin and death." People's a Second Day mentality. It can change only when we apprehend the greater law of "the spirit of life" (Rom. 8:2). The Third Day church says that it is God's will that we receive the benefits of salvation -- NOW. We call this crossover understanding, "faith." We must move out of faith into faith (Rom. 1:17). It takes new "faith" to walk in the newness of life (Rom. 6:4) and realize that God always causes us to triumph in Christ (2 Cor. 2:14).

Jesus said that from the days of John the Baptist until NOW (the now that was then &ndash;before Jesus died) believers had to take the kingdom by force. But, now that day is over. Today, we don't need to "TAKE" dominion by force &hellip; but, by grace we can just "HAVE" it (Gen. 1:26). We can BE who God says we are. It takes faith to understand that we are redeemed (Eph. 11:7, Col. 1:14). We are royalty (1Pet. 2:9)? We are bold&hellip; by the new and LIVING Way created for us (Heb. 10:19-20). Now, we have confidence toward God (1 Jn. 3:21).

In Christ, we obtain salvation (wholeness), righteousness, and peace (Eph. 1:7, Phil. 3:9, Rom. 5:1). He is in us and we're in Him (Jn. 17:21-23, Jn. 14:23, 15:4-7). We are justified and have peace (Rom 5:1, 8:31-33). We have vitality (2 Cor. 4:11). We can do all things (Phil. 4:13). No one can win against us (Rom. 8:31). Nothing can separate us (Rom. 8:37-39). We are children of God by faith (Gal. 3:26). We are joint heirs and sons (Gal. 4:7). We're part of the family of God (Eph. 2:1, Eph. 3:113-15, 2 Pet. 1:44, 1 Jn. 3:1). Now, there is no condemnation (Rom. 8:1). And there's soooo much more than words can say.

SATAN RULES THE WORLD.

Satan has absolutely no power over the Kingdom of God nor the people of God. But, he remains the ruler of this world (Jn. 12:31, 14:31, 16:11). World = (kosmos, world systems) Yes, he has total legal authority over the un-believing world system.

1. Satan is the god of this WORLD. (Jn. 14:30, 16:11).

2. Satan "deceives" the whole WORLD (Rev. 12:9).

3. Satan promises the blessings of this WORLD to those who obey him: (Mtt. 4:8-9).

4. Believers love not the WORLD, nor the things in the WORLD (1 Jn. 2:15).

JESUS SAID HIS KINGDOM WAS NOT OF THIS WORLD (Jn. 8:23, Jn. 18:36)

Jesus is the light of the WORLD (Jn. 9:5).

Jesus overcame this WORLD (Jn. 16:33).

Jesus is greater than he that's in the WORLD. (1 John 4:4).

His Kingdom comes on EARTH as it is in heaven (Mtt. 6:10).

We live in this WORLD but are not a part of it (2 Cor. 10:3).

Greater is He that is in you than he (speaking of the spirit of the antichrist) that is in the WORLD (1 Jn. 4:4).

The believer overcomes the WORLD through faith (1 John 5:4-5).

As He is, SO ARE WE IN THIS WORLD (1 Jn. 4:17, Jn. 17:18, 20:21).

Jesus said, "NOW is the judgment of this WORLD: NOW shall the prince of this WORLD be cast out" (John 2:31 KJV).

TO THE CHRISTIAN, THE DEVIL IS DEFEATED (James 2:19)

In the Old Testament, evil forces could hinder prayers from being answered. These people had to struggle against emissaries of the devil (I.E. Daniel 10:10-13). That's because Jesus had not yet conquered the devil. Now the devil (the defeated enemy) cannot prohibit our prayers (Mat. 7:7-8) — because we KNOW that we have the petitions that we desire (1 Jn. 5:15).

1. One of Jesus's primary purposes of coming to earth was to spoil (disarm, confiscate the weapons, and effectively neutralize—bruising Satan's head with a death blow) principalities and powers, and make a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it (Col 2:13-15). We must never doubt that our reality of this victory is revealed in the Person of Christ.

2. Jesus came to purposefully destroy the works of the evil one (1 Jn. 3:8). HE FINISHED HIS WORK. Satan is a conquered foe (John 12:31). Did He do it? Is it finished? Ask yourself, "Is it finished in me?"

3. Jesus rose in victory over Satan (Eph. 1:20-22, Heb. 2:14).

4. Satan has NO dominion over believers (1 Jn. 4:4, Rom. 6:14, 1 Jn. 5:18). No lie can take away our security.

5. Jesus taught the disciples to cast out devils from unbelievers (Mark 16:15-17, Luke 8:27-33, Mark 7:24-29). He said to go to the "lost sheep" and cast out devils (Mtt. 10:7). He said, "Go into all nations" (ethnos — heathen tribes, Mtt. 28:19) and "Go into all the WORLD" and drive out devils" (Mk 16:17).

THE DEVIL KNEW HIS TIME WAS LIMITED:

Demons believe and they tremble (their hair bristles up — James 2:19).

"Have you come to torment us before the time?" (Matt. 8:29, Lk 4:34, 4:41, 8:28, Mk 1:24, Mk. 5:7).

Additionally, we all know that the devil seeks to devour who he "may" (1 Pet. 5:8). However, many will not permit him to devour them. It's not everyone! Unfortunately, UNTRANSFORMED minds and UNINFORMED Christians are held in deception. But, in reality, the devil has no power to devour a believer unless we yield to him — The devil can only fight us with "wiles" (Jn. 8:44). Wiles (methoedeia = methodology) lies (not truths), delusion (not reality), fraud (not facts), cunning (not substance), deceit (not certainty). He only uses schemes, fakery, empty threats, fraudulence, lying wonders, and craftiness (Eph. 6:11, 2 Cor. 11:3, 1 Cor. 3:19, Rom. 16:18, Eph. 4:14). There's no power there. Nothing to fear.

We resist the devil (with the facts of the Word) and he flees (James 4:7). Believers give him no ground (places in our heart) because we KNOW that Christ abides in us (Jn. 15:4-7), we KNOW we have eternal life (1 Jn. 5:13), and we KNOW that we are of God (1 Jn. 5:19). Even though he falsely accuses us day and night (Rev. 12:10), we are not ignorant of his devices (ways of conduct), therefore, he can't take advantage of us (2 Cor. 2:11).

## WE ARE TOTALLY DELIVERED FROM SATAN'S POWER -- NOW

1. Christ is our life (Col. 3:4).
2. Salvation totally reconciles us to God (2 Cor. 5:18). Jesus did all that was necessary to accomplish this fact. He doesn't have to die again!
3. Our faith quenches ALL the fiery darts of the wicked one (Eph. 6:16).
4. We are rescued from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son (Col. 1:13).
5. Jesus said that Satan is judged, condemned, and the final verdict is already passed against him (lit. translation of Jn. 16:11).
6. Through Jesus' death, Satan is stripped of all authority over the believer (Rev. 1:18).
7. Jesus said that it was impossible for the prince of this world to have even the tiniest connection with Him (Jn. 14:30 TLB). The devil's arena of power is outside the Body of Christ. He has no authority among the believer.
8. The wicked one cannot touch us (1 Jn. 5:18). He must flee from us (James 4:7). Satan has no power in a believer's life unless it is conceded to him.

In the past, God has winked at our lack of knowledge (Acts 17:30). But now, it's time to reevaluate our present mindset. Our services should be jam-packed and bursting with the wonder and amazement at the goodness of God. We should unveil His glory as it covers the earth (Col 1:13)! We should live, walk, talk, pray, and prophecy a finished work.

Surely, we see the fulfilled prediction of Isaiah 40:23-24, "He (Jesus) brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. 24 No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff. Furthermore, "AS Jesus was sent, so He also sends us -- to destroy (bring to nothing) all evil works.

Truth produces inside us the ability to become who we already are in the spirit. It brings that finished work into manifestation in our individual and corporate lives (1 Jn. 4:17). Yes, we have NO enemies! This is the privilege of our sonship. Where are our enemies? Under His feet (1 Cor. 15:25-27, Eph. 1:22, Heb. 2:8, see also Ps. 91:13). And -- where do we, the NEW CREATION, WORSHIP???? We worship at His footstool (that's the place under His feet that covers the enemy) where the victory is already accomplished (Ps. 99:5, 132:7)! And, what do we sing? As the old song goes, "It is finished, the battle is over. It is finished -- there'll be no more lies. "

At last we hear the Lord say, "Arise, come, my darling; my beautiful one, come away with me, it's time once again for us to return to the glorious Garden walk and commune in the cool of the day. " (SOS 2:13, Gen. 3:8)

Third Day Church Melchizedek Koinonia Equality Devil Apostolic Home General Tongues Dominion Store