

Is The Devil a Fool?

Many people have the wrong idea about Satan; the great enemy of God and man. They think he is stupid, but the devil is nobody's fool. He is very intelligent. He is evil, but he is not a fool.

1. The devil is a real personality; a wicked spirit. He is no myth. Not just "the principle of evil."

a. Two instances of his evil desire: (Job. 1:6, Lk. 22:31).

b. No personification of sin, but a sinner. (I Jn. 3:8)

c. He is as real as Jesus Christ is. A comparison will show this to be true. (Blackboard) (Mt. 12:24-26, Col. 1:13, Jn. 12:31, Ep. 2:2, Re. 1:5-6, II Co. 4:4, Jn. 1:1, Ac. 26:18, He. 1:3, Jn. 8:44, Is. 9:6, I Jn. 3:10 etc.)

2. He is intelligent.

a. His children are wise. (Lk. 16:8)

b. Crafty deceiver. (Ge. 3:1, Re. 12:9, II Co. 2:11, 11:14)

3. He is dangerous. Neither Christ nor any other person ever made light of Satan. Rather they recognized him and his evil work, urgently warning against him. (Jas. 4:7) *"SUBMIT YOURSELVES THEREFORE TO GOD..."*

4. Let us examine some doctrines that find many followers in the world today which try to make "crafty old Satan" out to be stupid.

5. Is the Devil a fool?

I. If universalism is true, he is...for working so hard to capture souls.

1. (Lk. 22:31) as he desired Simon, so he desires all of us.

2. Universalism is not true (Mt. 7:13-14, II Th. 1:8-9, I Pe. 4:17, Gal. 6:7-8, Mt. 25:31-33, 41)

3. So the Devil knows what he is doing.

II. If the doctrine of arbitrary election and reprobation be true, he is...for even being in business.

1. He would either already have you and could not lose you, or he would not have you and could not get you.

2. This doctrine is not true. (Mt. 11:28-30, ^{Mt. 23:37} Lk. 14:11, ^{Jn. 5:40} Ac. 2:40, Ac. 13:46, Ro. 10:13, II Pe. 1:10).

One may move freely from one Kingdom to the other. (Ac. 26:18, II Tim. 2:26)

3. So the Devil is smart.

III. If there is no hell, he is...for working so hard to get people to go there.

1. Hell is real. (Re. 20:10, 15, Mt. 3:11, Jn. 15:6, Mt. 13:41-42, Mk. 9:43-44) (Re. 14:10-11)

2. Prepared for the devil and his angels. (Mt. 25:41). An irrevocable fate for him. Misery loves company.

3. The devil is no fool.

IV. If there is no power in God's word, he is... for stealing it out of men's hearts.

1. He does steal it away. (Lk. 8:12)
2. There is power in the word. (Jas. 1:21, He. 4:12, Jn. 6:63, I Pe. 1:12-25, Lk. 8:11, Ro. 10:17, He. 11:6, Ro. 1:16 etc.)
3. Satan knows this power while many preachers do not, He is smarter than they. His is no fool.
4. (See also). (Jer. 23:29, Is. 55:11)

V. If the children of God cannot so sin as to be eternally lost, he is...for trying to get them to.

1. He does try. (I Pe. 5:8, Ep. 6:11, Lk. 22:3, Ac. 5:3)
2. Plain doctrine of scripture. (He. 3:12, I Co. 10:12, 9:27, Gal. 5:4, Jn. 15:6, Ro. 11:19-22)
3. So the Devil is smart.

VI. If one religion is as good as another, he...for engaging in the business of religion - he is divided against himself. (Mt. 12:26)

1. He is in the business of religion. He has synagogues (~~Pe. 2:9~~, 3:9) He has ministers. (II Co. 11:14-15). He inspires the work of "the man of sin" (II Th. 2:3-10) *even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan.*
2. God recognizes only one church. (Mt. 16:18, Ep. 1:23, I Co. 12:20) Others he destroys (Ps. 127:1, Mt. 15:14) **13**
3. There is only one Christ. (Ac. 4:12)
4. There is only one doctrine. (I Tim. 6:3-5, Jn. 12:48, Gal. 1:8-9, Mt. 15:9, 13, 14)
5. Thus the devil is no fool.
 - a. He blinds mens minds (II Co. 4:4)
 - b. Sends out preachers. (II Pe. 2:1-3, I JN. 4:1 etc.)
 - c. Leads them all to his reward.

Bib. Leroy Brownlow "Sermons You Can Preach"

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