

## Is it Biblical To Mock The devil?

### Who is the devil?

Satan is a fallen angel and head of a vast cadre of fallen angels, or demons (2 Pet. 2:4, Jude 6) who rebelled against God (Is. 14:13-15), and was expelled from Heaven. He now resides in the earth and his main goal is to destroy and disrupt humanity, thereby preventing God's creation from realizing its fullest potential, and giving glory to God.

### Was the devil always satan?

No, he was once Lucifer (Isa 14:12), the archangel who "covered" the throne of God. Hence, he was the highest-ranking of all of the angels. Yet because of pride, he sought to claim God's throne for himself, and was expelled from Heaven.

### How has scripture instructed the believer to deal with the enemy?

By the Word of God ("It is written"):

Matthew 4:1-11

- 1: Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.
- 2: And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.
- 3: And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.
- 4: But he answered and said, **It is written**, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.
- 5: Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,
- 6: And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.
- 7: Jesus said unto him, **It is written again**, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.
- 8: Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;
- 9: And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.
- 10: Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for **it is written**, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.
- 11: Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

The Bible does *not* tell us to "laugh at the devil." It does not tell us to "dance on him." It does not tell us to mock him, in any way. Satan loves it when we do these things because he knows that when we do, we are dealing with our enemy outside of the parameters of God's Word. When we do so, we then fight in *our own strength*, and not the strength of God.

## Let's look at what happened to some men who tried this in the Bible:

### Acts 19:14-16:

14: And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so.

15: And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?

16: And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

### **Ques: Why did this happen?**

Firstly, these Jews were not true believers- yet the warning here is that any time *anyone*- even a Christian, attempts to oppose satan on any basis other than the shed blood of Jesus Christ, and outside of the direction of the Word of God, they are headed for trouble.

### **The enemy loves it when we do three things:**

- Minimize him so that we see him as a caricature (the “red man with the pitchfork,” etc.). This causes us to underestimate him as a foe, and relax our vigilance and dependence on God’s protection, and on spiritual weapons that He has provided for us in Jesus Christ.
- Blatantly disrespect and denigrate him to the point where we are not fighting him with God’s word, but our own words. The devil is not impressed with “I came to laugh at the devil- ha ha!” The only thing that puts him in his place is the Word of God.
- Give him undue attention and time that could be used to glorify God (“well, the devil is busy...”). He knows that many of the songs that we sing and the testimonies that we give in church give him more glory than they do God. That is why worship is so important. When we worship God, it puts the focus to where it belongs- on God the Father, and on Jesus Christ.

### **So the most effective way to combat the enemy is by worshiping God and by knowing, obeying, and using his Word when under demonic attack.**

Also, when we mock the enemy, we give him occasion to accuse us before God as being *just like him*, in that our own rebellious nature causes us to disrespect authorities when they have fallen. The story of Noah and his sons (Genesis 9:23-27) warns us not to denigrate *any* fallen leader, as it reveals that we ourselves are rebellious. Look at what Jude 8-10 tells us:

8: Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.

9: Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, **The Lord rebuke thee.**

In this passage, Michael, the archangel, confronts satan, who was at one time Lucifer, who was the archangel *of* archangels, Michael, who was once subordinate to Lucifer, refuses to attack the devil, because, even in his fallen state, as Lucifer, he once had

*authority* over Michael, who instead of fighting his own battle, names *the Lord* as the one who would rebuke his enemy.

Again, that is why when we deal with our enemy **verbally**, we use what **God** has given us. We use the same thing that Jesus used. We use the Word of God.

“IT IS WRITTEN!!”