

Satan's Whisper

Written by James Washington
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You know the last time I looked the devil was still a liar. In a recent sermon I found myself re-hearing this. This guy specializes in deceit; the kind that has you believing that something good might come out of something you know to be extremely bad for you. The drill goes like this. Harden not your heart when you hear the Word of God (from Hebrews 3:8). But Satan has a field day causing us to resist listening to what we know is right and from God.

The point I'm trying to make is that spiritual recognition is a great perspective to have. If only you could see when you're being fooled or used or manipulated by something or someone who doesn't have your best interest in their heart. I would suggest, if you did, you would act accordingly. But when the devil is at his best, he can lure you into deep do do. "Some people are like seed along the path where the Word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes along and takes away the Word that was sown in them." Mark 4:15.

Emotionally we have all responded vehemently when recognition allows us to see we're being made a fool of or being used. The person who does this is subject to some things we now testify about and ask God for forgiveness. It's not pretty. But you see the devil doesn't always show his hand the way God shows His. This liar specializes in presenting you and me situations and circumstances that make you never think he's the reason your life is going to hell in the proverbial hay basket. "For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for Satan masquerades as an angel of the light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness." 2 Corinthians 11"14-15. So when you really look and understand that Satan is at work trying hard to wreck your life, it's probably at a time when you're trying like crazy to be true to your faith. The bible says watch out because that is when so called supporters, advice givers, friends and sometimes family show up to "comfort," "help" and "guide" us in a way that appears to be consistent with our beliefs. In truth, if we could see the devil at work, it would be easy to make the right choices. But the devil is so cunning that at the moment of truth, he sees to it that we blame others, rationalize our actions, defend our sin and otherwise fault the world and our lives for what we know God has total control over.

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In the name of everything but Satan, we can explain away those things that we do that guarantee we're going straight to hell. Rarely do we permit ourselves the time to recognize this is Satan doing his best to damn our souls to hell. Rarely if ever, do we give the devil his just due and recognize his hand in our regrets on those mornings after. If we could and did, then the Word of God would emerge and out of our chaos bring order and peace. Then how we live would become second nature to why we live. When you understand the why of life, the how becomes easier to accomplish. "Be careful then, how you live; not as unwise but wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is." Ephesians 4:15-18. I really think the difference lies in being able to recognize the difference between God's Word and Satan's whispers. "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls..." Jeremiah 6: 16.

May God bless and keep you always.