

Tools of Satan's Workbench

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I. Introduction.

A. Satan is a real live person at work in the world. (2 Corinthians 2:11, 1 Peter 3:11)

B. We are involved in spiritual warfare. (1 Peter 5:8-9, 1 John 4:4)

II. Satan has five primary tools.

A. Doubt. (Genesis 3)

1. Satan targets the Word of God and the grace of God.

2. Satan is the Father of Lies. (John 8:44)

4. Satan makes four false promises that are the foundation of every false religion.

a. You shall not die.

b. Your eyes shall be open.

c. You will be like God.

d. You shall decide what is right and wrong.

5. The true response.

a. Only Jesus can keep the promise of eternal life. (John 11; Luke 4; John 10; Ephesians 1:18)

b. God had in mind for us to be like him. (Romans 8:28-29, 2 Corinthians 3:18, 1 John 3:2)

c. God had in mind that we would discern good and evil. (Hebrews 5:14)

6. The essence of doubt is impatience. The promises are reasonable, but the timing is wrong.

7. One of the definitions of sin is shortcut.

B. Division. (1 Corinthians 1:10, Philippians 1:27)

1. This does not mean conformity.

2. This means a spirit of unity.

C. Discouragement.

1. This comes from unresolved anger. It is okay to be angry for the right reason, but it must be dealt with in a biblical manner.

2. This also comes from misplaced values. (Jonah 4:9)

D. Diversion.

1. The enemy of the best is not the worst but the good.

2. Make your gift available for the church and focus on evangelism and discipleship. (2 Timothy 2:3-4)

E. The dimming effect of sin.

1. The most effective narcotic is sin.

2. The stages of sin: I saw, I coveted, I took, I hid. (Joshua 7:20-21)

III. Conclusion. God is the God of hope. (Romans 15:13)

Application questions:

1. What are some things in your life that divert you from the most important things?

2. How have you seen division creep into the church? How does one address this?

3. When have you struggled with doubt? How did God get you through this?
