

3. He knows scripture, but twists it rather than believes it
the devil quotes from Psalm 91 as part of his temptation of Jesus

he takes it out of context, and Jesus refutes it with scripture

begins in the Garden of Eden when he twists God's command

a favorite today: *The Bible says God wants me happy, so . . .*

4. He is bent on destroying humans
because we bear the image of God, he wants to defile or destroy it

Should not this woman, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free? - Luke 12:16

never forget that his desire is to destroy you!

5. He is a liar and a murderer
If you worship me, it will all be yours - vs. 7

He was a murderer from the beginning. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies

- John 8:44

6. He is persistent
When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time - vs. 13

Every temptation is an opportunity to do good - Rick Warren

recognize your patterns of temptation and make necessary changes

Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Come near to God, and he will come near to you - James 4:7-8

7. He is destined for eternal destruction
while we are offered eternal life, he gets eternal death

The devil was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur . . . and will be tormented day and night for ever and ever - Revelation 20:10

CONCLUSION

The devil: our worst enemy, a roaring lion, an angel of light, a defeated foe

WHAT JESUS BELIEVES ABOUT THE DEVIL

LUKE 4:1-13

INTRODUCTION

When I say the word “devil” what comes to mind?

Brunswick Blue Devils?

little man in red long underwear, with hooves, horns & pitchfork?

a neighbor kid?

Flip Wilson’s Geraldine: *The devil made me do it!*

Many do not take the devil seriously; some take him too seriously

What Can Jesus Teach Us About the Devil?

1. He is very real

he’s not a caricature, a cartoon character, or a religious myth

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for 40 days he was tempted by the devil - vs. 1-2

the devil will take on anyone, anywhere in hopes of succeeding

he strikes when he thinks we are weakest or most vulnerable

to ignore the reality of the devil is to do so to our own detriment

2. He is powerful, but much less powerful than Jesus

he offers Jesus the authority & splendor of the world’s kingdoms

Jesus doesn’t dispute his right to offer this

this power is only under the final control of God

Jesus frequently refers to him as *the prince of this world*

John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11

Jesus consistently cast out demons, who could not resist his power

the prince of this world...has no hold over me (Jesus) -John 14:30

The one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world

1 John 4:4

focus on the power God provides to win victories over the devil