

## SATAN'S STRATEGY AND OUR DEFENSE - SATAN AS THE RULER

*Example: DAVID Scripture - 1 Chr. 21:1-19*

### SATAN'S TARGET = THE WILL

"How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground. You who weakened the nations: For you have said in your heart: '**I will** ascend into heaven, **I will** exalt my throne above the stars of God; **I will** also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; **I will** ascend above the heights of the clouds, **I will** be like the Most High. Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.'" -- Isa. 14:12-15

- 1) [John 12:31] "Now is the judgment of this world; now **the ruler of this world** will be cast out." (see John 14:30, 1 Tim 3:6-7, Prov 16:18)
- 2) [1 in 5:19] "... the **whole world** lies *under the sway* of the wicked one."
- 3) [1 Chr 21:1] Now **Satan** stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel. (see also 1 Chr 21:2,7,8,14-19)  
[Exo 30:12] "When you take the census of the children of Israel for their number, then **every man shall give a ransom for himself** to the LORD, when you number them, **that there may be no plague among them when you number them.**

### SATAN'S WEAPON = PRIDE (Mat 4:8,9)

- 1) [1 Tim 3:6] "not a novice, lest being **puffed up with pride** he fall into the **same condemnation as the devil.**" (3 John 9)
- 2) [1 John 2:16] "For all that is in the world; the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and **the pride of life;** is not of the Father but **is of the world.**"
- 3) [1 Pet. 5:5-8] be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble. ... Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

### SATAN'S PURPOSE = INDEPENDENCE OF GOD'S WILL (Deu 6:10,12)

- 1) [2 Chr. 26:15,16] So his fame spread far and wide, for he was marvelously helped till he became strong. **But when he was strong his heart was lifted up,** to his destruction, for he transgressed against the LORD his God by entering the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense.
- 2) [1 John 2:17] And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but **he who does the will of God** abides forever. {Heb. 5:14 - cf. Gen. 2:16, 17}

### OUR DEFENSE = INDWELLING SPIRIT OF GOD

- 1) [Phil. 2:13] for it is **God who works in you** both to will and to do for His good pleasure.
- 2) [Rom. 12:1-2] { (Js4:7) , Eph 3:20 ,Jn. 3:27, Js. 4:10} I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what **is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**

**Questions to ponder:**

- 1. What does the example of Satan's pride show me about my own pride?**
- 2. How can I practically be clothed with humility?**
- 3. What steps can I take to be *dependent* on God's will?**
- 4. Consider the phrase, "walking in the Spirit" - how do I live in God's Spirit to defend myself against the attempts of Satan to rule in my life?**
- 5. How do I let God rule in every aspect of my life?**