

Satan's Schemes

II Cor. 2:5-11

II Cor. 2:6-11

- 6 Sufficient to such a man *is* this punishment, which *was inflicted* of many.
- 7 So that contrariwise ye *ought* rather to forgive *him*, and comfort *him*, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow.
- 8 Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm *your* love toward him.
- 9 For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things.
- 10 To whom ye forgive any thing, I *forgive* also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave *it*, for your sakes *forgave I it* in the person of Christ;
- 11 ***Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.***

Key Words In The Text: II Cor. 2:11

- Satan (adversary) - a personal, evil being, intent on our spiritual destruction (I Pet. 5:8; Rev. 12:9-7).
- Advantage - to cheat, defraud; to exploit with any possible means, in every circumstance or situation - to take us spiritually captive. (II Tim. 2:26; II Cor. 10:4-5)
- Ignorant - unaware, not familiar, oblivious
- Devices - schemes, wiles, plots, purposes, designs. (Eph. 6:10, 16; II Cor. 10:5; 11:3)

Destroys Relationships (II Cor. 2:6-11)

- I Cor. 5:1-1 It is reported commonly *that there is* fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. 2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.
- II Cor. 2:6-7 Sufficient to such a man *is* this punishment, which *was inflicted* of many. 7 So that contrariwise *ye ought* rather to forgive *him*, and comfort *him*, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow.
 - Satan is at work in both of these situations...
 - Satan is the Destroyer of relationships: In marriages, in churches, among friends - between the Creator and those created in His image. (Isa. 59:1-2)
 - Resist the devil, and he will flee from you... (Js. 4:7-10)

Corrupts The Word of God (II Cor. 2:17)

- II Cor. 2:17 → 17 For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.
 - **Corrupt** - “hucksters who peddle the word of God for profit” (NET); peddlers were in the habit of adulterating their commodities for gain.
 - II Cor. 11:13-15 → 13 For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Corrupts The Word of God (II Cor. 2:17)

- Satan's ministers twist the scriptures and proclaim what will accomplish their personal objectives: money, large following, etc. Peddle the word to make it more palatable to the impenitent.
 - The health and wealth gospel. (II Cor. 12:7; II Tim. 4:20; I Tim. 6:6-12; Matt. 19:21-23)
 - Ignore subjects like marriage/divorce; homosexuality; abortion, etc. (Rom. 1:26-32; I Cor. 6:9-11)
 - “Easy Believism” (Jn. 12:42-43; Js. 2:24-26; Gal. 5:6)
 - The impossibility of apostasy. (I Cor. 10:12; Heb. 3:12; Gal. 5:4)