**CHRIST’S VICTORY OVER SATAN**

1. **The Opposition: Christ vs. Satan**
   1. The Challenge: The Baptism in the Jordan
      1. Luke 11:20-22
   2. The First Duel: The Temptation in the Dessert
      1. First Temptation: *Self*: Personal Pleasure/Comfort
      2. Second Temptation: *Others*: Vanity/Influence
      3. Third Temptation: The World
2. **Calvary: Who Wins?**
   1. Clearly it’s Satan’s initiative *and* Christ’s initiative
   2. But Satan has no right to take Christ’s life
      1. He does have the right to take *our* lives:
         1. Hebrews 2:14-15: We are in bondage to Satan, because through sin we choose to serve him.
            1. Therefore, he has “the power of death”
            2. He’s our boss, and he pays us for our obedience to him by killing us and our children

Romans 6:23: *For the wages of sin is death.*

* + - 1. But Jesus is innocent!
    1. So by overreaching, and Christ, Satan loses his power altogether. **He breaks the deal and loses everything**.

1. **Take Away: We no longer have anything to fear. And so Satan shouldn’t be able influence us at all.**
   1. We don’t need to fear the loss of all worldly goods (death); and so we don’t need to fear the loss of some worldly goods (any other suffering, humiliation, or inconvenience).
      1. So Satan can’t scare us
      2. So we can be heroes for Christ

John 12:31: *Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.*

Luke 11:20-22: *But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of Gd has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace; but when one stronger than he assails him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoils.*

Psalm 91:11-12: *For God commands the angels to guard you in all your ways. With their hands they shall support you, lest you strike your foot against a stone.* ***You shall tread upon the asp and the viper, trample the lion and the dragon****.*

Asp/viper = serpent – devil in Genesis

Dragon – devil in revelation

Lion – I Pet 5:8: Satan prowls like a roaring lion.

* + 1. Luke 22:3: *Then Satan entered into Judas, called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the chief priests and captains how he might betray him to them.*
    2. John 10:17-18: *For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life, that I may take it again. No one takes it from me, by I lay it down of my own accord.*

Hebrews 2:14-15: S*ince then the children have flesh and blood, he himself also in just the same way partook of the same,* ***in order that by means of death he might do away with him who holds the power of death, that is the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage*.**

St. John Chrysostem: “When anyone has determined to disregard even this [his life], of what then will he be the slave? He fears no one, he is in terror of no one; he is higher than all and freer than all… And when the devil finds a soul such as this, he can accomplish in it none of his works. Why? Tell me, shall he threaten with loss of property and degradation and banishment from one’s country? But these are small matters to him who ‘counts not even his life dear.’” *On Hebrews* 4.6-7