DEALING WITH THE DEVIL!
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Fact: The devil is here to stay, he has bad intentions and we must deal with him. The believer needs to understand who he is and what he desires to accomplish. He is here to kill, steal and to destroy. We have been given authority by Christ to deal with him and it is imperative that we do so.

Deceiver is here; to mislead by a false appearance or statement; delude: to mislead or falsely persuade others;

Revelation 12:9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

1. Existence of the devil
The key to effectively operating in the supernatural is to recognize that we are dealing with supernatural beings, God and the devil. The devil is real but would love to have us to believe that he does not exist. Hundreds of thousands of people don’t believe in the existence of a devil. So, God gets praised for the good that happens and blamed the evil that happens. That creates a love, hate relationship with the Lord.

Jesus made it very plain that there is a diabolical being in the earth that kills, steal and destroys. These evil spirits are in the earth to influence and manipulate mankind to do evil. These spirits seek to influence mankind through their five senses (touch, see, hear, taste, smell). He uses deception to manipulation those senses. That is another reason we need the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us the ability to discern between God and evil, not just good and evil. Evil spirits and their intentions must be dealt with. They will not just go away!

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly

2. Origin of the devil
The original name of the devil was Lucifer, who was originally a ‘good’ spirit being and one of a class of angels known as Cherubim (Ezekiel 28:14). At one time, according to the Bible, he was one of only two angelic beings whose task was to cover God’s glory as he sat on the throne of the universe.

He eventually rebelled against God and tried to force him off his throne. His attempt was a failure. Lucifer had perverted his own mind and became the enemy of righteousness, thus turning himself into the devil. As a result he was thrown out of Heaven like lightening.

Ezekiel 28:14 Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. 15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

3. His name reveals his nature and he has many names.
4. Dealing with the devil as defeated!
As long as we are alive, we must deal with The Devil. The devil is a criminal, who does not obey the law unless he is forced to. The devil has a lawless nature!

We must enforce Jesus' victory and Lordship in the situations of life, or the devil will take control by default.

If we file a complaint with the court against someone for doing us wrong, but don’t show up for the hearing, our opponent wins the case by default. That is the case in many believer's lives. If we disobey and don’t exercise our authority, the devil will win battles and exercise control by default. Christ disarmed principalities and powers and gave us authority over them!

**COLOSSIANS 2:15** Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

5. Intentions & strategies of the devil. We must respond to him.
We must understand that the devil has bad intentions! One of the ways of defeating the enemy is by knowing his intentions and his strategies to defeat those intentions. The devil’s intention is to devour. His strategy is to overwhelm people with the deception of his loud roar that enters the mind. Fear is a major part of his strategy. He uses fear to conjure up hopelessness in people.

The believer's intention must be to work with God to destroy the works of the devil. Our strategy must be to resist the devil’s onslaught of deception, roar and fear. We resist the devil by remaining steadfast in the faith; Faith in the word of God, faith in the name of Jesus, faith in the atoning blood of Jesus, faith in the anointing and faith in our God given authority!
**1 Peter 5:7** casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. 
**8** Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 
**9** whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

**1 John 3:8** He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

6. The name of Jesus is our delegated authority
Jesus gave us authority and expects us to use it! Notice that it is at the Name of Jesus, not just to the person of Jesus, that every knee will bow. His name represents His person! As true believers in Jesus Christ, we are joint-heirs in the authority of His name.

**PHILIPPIANS 2:10** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,
Matthew 10:1 And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

Jesus is known and Paul was known by the devil! You don’t deal with the devil on the basis of someone else’s authority. Each of us must be walking in our own God given authority.

Acts 19:11 And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: 12 so that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

13 Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. 14 And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? 16 And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. 17 And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.