

**WHY PEOPLE WON'T GET SAVED  
PART 1-BECAUSE SATAN BLINDS THEM  
2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-4; GENESIS 3:1-6**

**INTRODUCTION**

One of my greatest struggles as a **PASTOR** and **PREACHER** of the **GOSPEL** is to see people who know that they are **LOST** continue on in their **SINFUL** condition refusing to get **SAVED**. They know they are **SINNERS**. They know the **GOSPEL**. But, they refuse to get right with **GOD!** They refuse the **GOOD NEWS** of the **GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST!**

**Why is it that some people won't people get SAVED?** That question has been posed both to me and by me many times. Usually it is right after I've given a clear presentation of the **GOSPEL** to a person who admits to being **LOST**. Sometimes it may be right after I've **PREACHED** a clear presentation of the **GOSPEL** and folks who are admittedly **LOST** are present.

*Isaiah 45:22*—“*Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: For I am God, and there is none else.*”

In *Isaiah 45:22*, the **LORD** says that “*all the ends of the earth*” should look to **HIM** for **SALVATION!**

People cannot get **SAVED** unless they look to the **LORD!** But there are multitudes that will look everywhere but to the **LORD!** Why is that?

Understand there are reasons given in the **BIBLE** of why people won't get **SAVED**. Let me share with you just **ONE** of those reasons this morning.

**Many people won't look to the LORD because they have been BLINDED BY SATAN! (2 Corinthians 4:3-4)**

**I. SATAN BLINDS PEOPLE BY DECEIT!**

*(e.g. Satan deceived Eve in the garden of Eden!)*

**A. SATAN Gets People To Question GOD'S AUTHORITY!  
(Genesis 3:1)**

**GOD'S WORD** is **HIS AUTHORITY!** **GOD** had given **ADAM** and **EVE** just one **COMMANDMENT** to keep!

**GOD** had said that **ADAM** and **EVE** could freely eat of every tree of the garden except the tree in the middle of the garden.

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Some may question, “*Well, why did God do that?*”  
Listen, **HE IS GOD!** **HE** can do whatever **HE** wants!

When **SATAN** came to **EVE** by way of the serpent, the first thing out of his mouth was a question about **GOD'S WORD!** “*Yea hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?*”

**SATAN** questioned **GOD'S AUTHORITY** and still today he gets people to question **GOD'S AUTHORITY!** There are some other notable examples of this in **SCRIPTURE!**

**e.g. Pharaoh in Exodus 5:2**

*“And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go”*

**e.g. In 2 Kings 18**, Sennacherib the King of Assyria had invaded Judah. He was seeking to terrify the defenders of Jerusalem and sent a fellow by the name of Rabshakeh to speak these words to King Hezekiah of Judah: *2 Kings 18:19*—“*What confidence is this wherein thou trusteth.*”

Sennacherib and his associates continued to blaspheme **GOD** and question **GOD'S AUTHORITY** in *2 Kings 18 and 19*. *2 Kings 19:10*—“*Let not thy God in whom thou trustest deceive thee...*”

Hezekiah prayed to **GOD** and **GOD** answered his prayer. The **angel of the LORD** killed 185,000 Assyrians that night. Then Sennacherib's own sons killed him with a sword as he was worshiping in the house of his god.

It is not wise to question **GOD'S AUTHORITY!** There are many today who think that **GOD'S LAW** doesn't apply to them and so they think they don't need **JESUS!**

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- A. *SATAN Gets People To Question GOD'S AUTHORITY...*  
B. **SATAN Gets People To Question GOD'S JUDGMENT!**  
(Genesis 3:4)

SATAN told EVE, "*Ye shall not surely die.*" SATAN questions GOD's JUDGMENT today in various ways:

1. **SATAN Will Tell Folks, "God won't judge sin!"**

Paul had these words to say to a group of pagan philosophers as he viewed their many idols:  
*Acts 17:30-31*—"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31 **Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.**"

2. **Satan Will Tell Folks, "There Is No Hell!"**  
*"Some have believed the lie that Luke 16:19-31 about the rich man and Lazarus is just a parable!"*

*Some believe that "Hell is just the grave!"*

3. **Satan Will Tell Folks, "There is no eternal torment, you just burn up!"**  
JESUS described Hell this way in *Mark 9:44-48*.  
a) Twice He calls it ". . .the fire that never shall be quenched."  
b) 3 times He said it is a place:  
*"Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched."*

*Revelation 20:10*—"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and **shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.**"

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4. **He'll Tell Folks, "Hell is here on the earth."**  
We may sometimes see a trial get tough for someone or even for us on this earth and someone refers to it as "*Hell on earth.*" But listen, JESUS spoke of a **hell** beyond earth, beyond time; and that should give us a great deal to think about!

I'm not going to deny that **life gets tough at times** and that **some people live and die in some extremely bad circumstances of life**. When that happens some folks want to blame **GOD** when they should blame **SATAN!** (SATAN'S DECEPTION in the **GARDEN** causing man to fall brought all the evil that we see!)

But, no matter how bad it gets here, it is not as bad as **HELL** will be! And no matter how much one may suffer in this life, it won't keep them from going to **HELL** and experiencing it if they leave this world without **CHRIST!**

5. **Satan Will Tell Folks, "There are no eternal consequences to your sin."**  
Some men laugh at the very idea of **HELL**. But I can assure you that **HELL** is no laughing matter!  
People may laugh themselves into **HELL** but they can never laugh or cry themselves out of **HELL!**
6. **Satan Will Tell Folks, "You can get by with sin!"**  
*Numbers 32:23*—" . . .behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out."  
*Ezekiel 18:4*-- ". . .the soul that sinneth, it shall die."
7. **Satan Will Tell Folks, "CHRISTIANS don't believe in hell."**

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The sad part is, many **CHRISTIANS** say they believe in **HELL** with their lips, but their lives show something entirely different. **SATAN** knows this.

Charlie Peace, a criminal in England, on the day he was being taken to his execution, listened to a minister reading from the **WORD OF GOD**. When he found out that he was reading about **HEAVEN** and **HELL**, he looked at the preacher and said:

*"Sir, if I believed what you and the church of God say, and even if England were covered with broken glass from coast to coast, I would walk over it on hands and knees and think it worthwhile living just to save one soul from an eternal hell like that."*

(He was speaking of folks **indifference and apathy!**)

*Satan Gets People To Question God's Authority...Judgment.*

**C. SATAN Gets People To Question GOD'S GOODNESS!**

**Genesis 3:5**—*"For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."*

What **SATAN** was implying is that **GOD** was holding out something from **ADAM** and **EVE**!

Since the garden of **EDEN** when man fell, man's **HEART** has been **DECEITFUL** because of **SIN**! **Jeremiah 17:9**—*"The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked..."*

**SATAN** will use man's **HEART** to blame **GOD** for things that are not **GOD'S** fault.

**SATAN gets folks to blame GOD for DEATH!**

**Romans 5:12** says, *"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"*

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**SATAN will get folks to blame GOD for DISEASE!**

There were none before man sinned in the **Garden of Eden!**

**SATAN will get folks to blame GOD for DISASTERS!**

There were none before man sinned in the **Garden of Eden!**  
*(Famine, pestilences, earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, typhoons, floods, wildfires)*

**SATAN will get folks to blame GOD for DISAPPOINTMENTS!**

There were none before **SATAN** tempted **EVE**!

**SATAN will get folks to blame GOD for DESPAIR!**

e.g. **JOB'S** wife in the midst of great suffering uttered...

**Job 2:9-10**—*"9 Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die. 10 But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips."*

There was no **DESPAIR** before **SATAN** showed up in the **GARDEN!**

By the way, there will be **NONE** of those things in **HEAVEN!**  
**JESUS** is mankind's only hope of ever living in an environment totally free from the effects of sin!

*SATAN BLINDS PEOPLE BY DECEIT—Question God's Authority, Judgment, and Goodness.*

**II. SATAN BLINDS PEOPLE BY DEPRESSION!**

**SATAN** uses the **CONSEQUENCES OF SIN** to get people **DEPRESSED** and to make them think that **GOD DOESN'T LOVE THEM** and/or that **GOD CANNOT SAVE THEM!**

*(e.g. In the prison ministry in Nashville, TN...we had one who came to our services one time at Riverbend Maximum Security Prison)*

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**A. Some People Believe That GOD Couldn't Possibly LOVE Them!**

SATAN tries to get mankind to believe that GOD couldn't possibly LOVE them! But, the **WORD OF GOD** is clear: **John 3:16**—*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

**1 John 3:16**—*“Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He laid down His life for us...”*

**1 John 4:9**—*“In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”*

**Romans 5:8**—*“But God commendeth His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”*

**B. Some People Believe That GOD Couldn't Possibly SAVE Them!**

SATAN wants you to believe this lie! However, **GOD'S WORD** says in **2 Peter 3:9** that GOD “. . .is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

**1 Timothy 2:4**—*“Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.”*

SATAN BLINDS PEOPLE BY DECEIT...BY DEPRESSION...

**Conclusion**

If you are without **CHRIST** this morning, have any of the scales fallen from your eyes and allowed you to see how that **SATAN** has you **BLINDED**?

There are all kinds of the excuses one can use for not coming to **CHRIST**! **SATAN** will make sure of that! But listen, there will be **NO ACCEPTABLE EXCUSES** when one stands before **GOD** in **JUDGMENT**!

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Unless one **REPENTS** of their **SIN** and **BELIEVES ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST ALONE FOR SALVATION**, they will **PERISH**!

**CHRIST** is able to save **ANYONE** that **WILL look to HIM**! But **HE** will not save **ANYONE** who **WILL NOT look to HIM**!

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If you are **SAVED**, has **SATAN** been using your life to further his cause? Are you living a life that is pleasing to **GOD**? Or are you **DISTRACTED** and busy about things that don't really matter. Maybe you are **LIVING IN SIN** and your life is the reason someone else won't get **SAVED**!

Why not get right with **GOD** today. Don't let **SATAN** use you to send others to **HELL**!