

THE  
OCTAGON

- Martin Luther said: “For where God builds a church, there the devil builds a chapel.”
- We must always remember we deal with a “cunning devil, a cursed world, and a corrupt heart.” (Overcoming Sin and Temptation ,John Owen, pg. 169)



**Ephesians 6:11**-“Put on the whole armor of god that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.”

- “stand” (stanai from histemi) stand up to, offer resistance to
- “schemes”- (methodias) cunning attacks.



# I. HOW SATAN ATTACKS US PERSONALLY

**How He Attacks Us Personally** (we talked previously about how he attacks the church)

1. He tries to keep you in doubt and questioning.
  2. Satan Bait's you with pleasure and hides the hook of sin. He tries to tempt and ensnare you
  3. Satan tries to get us to be idle but he is not. He encourages laxity in issues of urgency. (personal matters, church discipline, etc.)
  4. He works hard at preventing fact gathering from turning into sanctifying knowledge of the truth. He doesn't mind if you continue to learn about Christ so long as it doesn't change you!
- **2 Timothy 3:7**-“always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth.”

5. Gives sin a false complexion

a. Uses comparison to others-Luke 18:11

b. Blindness our own faults by evaluating others-Matthew 7:3-4

6. Tries to keep us from a single-minded thinking. He tries to hide the simplicity of the way of a holy life.

Thomas Brooks: "Many eat that on earth which they will digest in hell"



7. He keeps you from spiritual disciplines and thus prevents formidable, consistent, progressive spiritual growth. (Ps. 77:10-12)

Thomas Watson said, "The devil does not care how many sermon pills you take so long as they do not work upon your conscience.

8. He tries to confuse the relationship between faith and works, as well as the gospel and the law.
9. He makes us think if difficulty comes God is not present or at work.  
Job 33:10; Deut. 8:2
10. He gives you suggestive thoughts of unworthiness.



## Applications:

1. Realize although Satan is the “ruler of this world” it is a TEMPORARY position. –John 12:31; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4; Gen. 3:15 (woman’s seed would crush the head)
2. Sense what your temptations are first and not what your sins are. Know what gets you to sin not just what your “sin struggle” is! The real issue is the devil would like for you to struggle with sin while God wants you to struggle with temptation so that you won’t sin. Sin is the fruit from the root that temptation tries to cover.

Recognize the power and authority of Jesus.-Matthew 12:28; Psalm 110:1;1 Corinthians 15:25-28



## Applications:

3. Accusations are lies about your CURRENT status before God. You are forgiven. Colossians 2:13-14; Romans 6:22-23; Hebrews 10:8-12
4. Recognize the authority of Jesus.
5. Yield/Surrender to the Holy Spirit so you can respond with the mind of Christ.
  - **1 Cor. 2:16**-“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But WE HAVE the mind of Christ.”





## Applications:

6 . Immerse yourself in Scripture and literature that teaches Scripture.

Affectionately and plenteously, let not the Word be a stranger.

7. Pray and fast.

- Mark 9:29-"And He said to them, 'This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting.
- James 5:16-"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The

8. Remember that the only people who Christ has ever saved are unworthy. So, the devil should shut up against you here. Yes, you are unworthy which is the basis of your candidacy of his saving grace.

