



# Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices

## Satan's Devices to Draw the Soul to Sin, Pt. 1

### Introduction

The Covid-19 Pandemic seems like years ago and also like yesterday. In many ways, we're still feeling the effects of it. One of the striking things from the Pandemic was how fearful everyone became. Not only did people wear masks, but for those who didn't if you knew someone had Covid, you would find yourself avoiding that person.

We tend to flee from things that are dangerous to us, except in one instance. Almost every time, rather than fleeing in fear, we draw near with enticement and delight to look up and engage in a deadly plague – the plague of sin.

This is what Satan wants, and he works incredibly hard to draw the soul to sin. Overview of the Class.<sup>1</sup>

### The Device: “To Present the Bait and Hide the Hook”

*Definition:* “Satan's first device to draw the soul to sin is to present the bait – and hide the hook; to present the golden cup – and hide the poison; to present the sweet, the pleasure, and the profit that may flow in upon the soul by yielding to sin – and to hide from the soul the wrath and misery that will certainly follow the committing of sin.”

**\*In what ways have you experienced this?**

*Gen. 3:4-5:* *And the serpent said to the woman, “You shall not surely die! For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened, and you shall be like God, knowing good and evil.”*

**\*In what ways can you see Satan using this device to draw Adam and Eve to sin?**

“There is an opening of the eyes of the mind to contemplation and joy – and there is an opening of the eyes of the body to shame and confusion. He promises them the first – but he intends the second, and so Satan cheats them. He gives them an apple in exchange for a paradise, as he deals by thousands now-a-days.”

*Matt. 4:8-9:* *Again, the Devil took him to a high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”*

**\*In what ways can you see Satan using this device to draw Jesus to sin?**

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<sup>1</sup> See the other page/handout.

**In the paragraph below, notice: (1) What is Satan’s goal for this device? (2) How did it affect Jesus? and (3) What are the two primary things Satan uses as “Bait”?**

“Satan with ease pawns falsehoods upon us, by his golden baits, and then he leads us and leaves us in a fools paradise. He promises the soul honor, pleasure, profit – but pays the soul with greatest contempt, shame, and loss that can be. By a golden bait he labored to catch Christ. He shows him the beauty and the finery of a bewitching world, which doubtless would have taken many a carnal heart; but here the devil’s fire fell upon wet tinder, and therefore did not ignite. These tempting objects did not at all win upon his affections, nor dazzle his eyes, though many have eternally died of the ‘wound of the eye’, and fallen forever by this vile trumpet of the world, who, by laying forth her two fair beast of PROFIT and PLEASURE, has wounded their souls, and cast them into utter perdition. She has, by the glistening of her pomp and preferment, slain millions; as the serpent Scytale, which, when she cannot overtake the fleeing passengers, does, with her beautiful colors, dazzle and amaze them, so that they have no power to pass away until she has stung them to death! Adversity has slain her thousand – but prosperity her ten thousand.”

*(Discuss the above prompts/questions)*

## **The Remedies**

- 1. Keep at the greatest distance from sin, and from playing with the golden bait which Satan holds forth to catch you.**

**Rom. 12:9:** *Abhor that which is evil and cleave to that which is good.*

“When we meet with anything extremely evil and contrary to us, abhor it and retire from it as far as can be from it. The Greek word that is there rendered ‘abhor’ is very significant; it signifies to hate it as hell itself, to hate it with horror.”

“It is our wisest and our safest course to stand at the farthest distance from sin; not to go near the house of the harlot – but to fly from the appearance of evil (Prov. 5:8; 1 Thess. 5:22). The best course to prevent falling into the pit is to keep at the greatest distance from it. He who will be so bold as to attempt to dance upon the brink of the pit, may find by woeful experience that it is a righteous thing with God that he should fall into the pit. Joseph keeps at a distance from sin, and from playing with Satan’s golden baits, and stands. David draws near, and plays with the bait, and falls, and swallows bait and hook!”

“Sin is a plague, yes, the worst and most infectious plague in the world; and yet, ah! How few are there who tremble at it – who keep distance from it!”

**1 Cor. 5:6:** *Don’t you know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?*

**\*What’s hard about this? In what areas do you find yourself struggling to ‘abhor’ sin?**

## 2. Consider that sin is but a bittersweet.

“That seeming sweet that is in sin will quickly vanish; the lasting shame, sorrow, horror, and terror will come in the room instead... Forbidden profits and pleasures are most pleasing to vain men, who count madness mirth. Many long to be meddling with the murdering morsels of sin, which nourish not.”

“Men must not think to dance and dine with the Devil, and then to sup with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven; to feed upon the poison of asps, and yet that the viper’s tongue should not slay them.”

*Job 20:12-14: Though evil is sweet in his mouth, though he hides it under his tongue, though he is loathed to let it go and holds it in his mouth, yet his food is turned in his stomach; it is the venom of cobras within him.*

## 3. Solemnly consider that sin will usher in the greatest and the saddest losses that can be upon our souls.

“It will usher in the loss of that Divine favor which is better than life itself, and the loss of that joy which is unspeakable and full of glory, and the loss of that peace which passes understanding, and the loss of the those divine influences by which the soul has been refreshed quickened, raised, strengthened, and gladdened, and the loss of many outward desirable mercies, which otherwise the soul might have enjoyed.”

**\*How have you experienced this type of discipline from God when you sin? How does the Gospel shape the way we experience this type of discipline and ‘loss of favor’?**

## 4. Seriously consider that sin is of a very deceitful and bewitching nature.

“Sin is from the greatest deceiver, it is a child of his own begetting, it is the ground of all the deceit in the world, and it is in its own nature exceedingly deceitful.”

*Heb. 3:13: But exhort one another daily, while it is still called “today”, lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*

“It will kiss the soul, and look enticing to the soul, and yet betray the soul forever. It will with Delilah smile upon us, that it may betray us into the hands of the devil, as she did Samson into the hands of the Philistines. Sin gives Satan a power over us, and an advantage to accuse us and to lay claim to us, as those who wear his badge; it is of a very bewitching nature.”

“When the physicians told Theotimus that except he did abstain from drunkenness and uncleanness he would lose his eyes; his heart was so bewitched to his sins, that he answered, “Then farewell, sweet light!” He had rather lose his eyes than leave his sin. So a man bewitched with sin had rather lose God, Christ, heaven, and his own soul – than part with his sin. Oh, therefore, forever take heed of playing with or nibbling at Satan’s Golden Baits.”

## Conclusion

Let us have eyes to see the hook behind the bait – to see the poison within the water. Christ himself resisted all of Satan’s baits for us and our salvation. **\*Prayer Requests for the Devotees and Remedies.**