

# FIRST SAMUEL

## Lesson 26: Chapter 16, God's Use of Satan and Evil Spirits

30 December 2016

The lesson today is intended to demonstrate the awesome power and majesty of our God. There is no being in this universe who is a threat to God Almighty. Satan's craft and power are great, but one word from God and Satan will be bound in a bottomless pit for a thousand years (Rev. 20:2-3). God is not limited in any way concerning who He can use to perform His work. He can use men, He can use angels, He can use unclean spirits, or He can even use Satan, as He desires. God can use whosoever He will to accomplish His purposes.

### **BIBLICAL EXAMPLES**

1. **SAUL** (1 Samuel 16:14-16). Three times in this passage we are told that the evil spirit which troubled Saul was "**From the Lord**," demonstrating that God commands and directs the actions and operations of evil spirits.

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2. **JOB** (Job 1:6-19, 2:1-6). God allowed Satan to try Job to prove that Job loved God and so that we could learn a lesson about how Satan desires to destroy us and how we ought to handle his attacks.

**a. The desire of Satan:**

i. To destroy good men.

1. Tools of trade: Tarot Cards, Ouija boards, Séances, crystal ball readings, witchcraft, false religion, etc.
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**b. The capabilities of Satan:**

- i. Control of armies. (Job 1:15, 17)
  - ii. Fire falling from heaven. (1:16)
  - iii. Control of the wind and the elements. (1:19)
  - iv. Controlling the actions of men. (1:15, 17)
  - v. Killing people. (1:15-19, 2:5)
  - vi. Causing illness and disease. (2:7)
  - vii. Proving whether men love God. (1:11, 2:5)
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**c. The limitations of Satan:**

- i. He must have God's permission (Job 1:12, 2:6)
  - ii. He can't cause you more suffering than you're able to handle (1 Cor. 10:13).
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3. **EGYPT** (Psalm 78:43-49). Here we learn that when God sent the plagues upon Egypt (Exod. 7-12), He used “*evil angels*” to administer those plagues. He used evil angels because good angels don’t destroy.
- a. When the children of Israel left the bondage of Egypt, they carried with them the symbols of the Egyptian religions. The presence of those images attracted the evil spirits behind them (like a spotlight) and caused the Israelites a lot of trouble in the wilderness for 38 years. Joshua instructed the people to get rid of their strange gods (Josh. 24:23) before they went into the Promised Land.
    - i. Your religious trinkets and “souvenirs” are broadcasting an invitation to the spirits behind the scenes. You’d do well to destroy your Buddha statues or portraits and your Yin Yang (dark/bright) jewelry and any Hindu artifacts or T-shirts with religious symbols printed on them.
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4. **AHAB** (1 Kings 22:19-23). God used a lying spirit to persuade King Ahab to go into battle and die.
- a. When a man, woman, boy, or girl want the truth of God, He’ll give them light to find the truth.
  - b. When a man, woman, boy, or girl reject the truth of God, He’ll give them what they want: a lie.
    - i. This misinformation comes from false prophets controlled by lying spirits.
    - ii. Misinformation (deceit) leads to death (spiritual and physical).
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5. **ISRAEL AND THEIR IDOLS** (Ezekiel 14:6-9). If you allow an idol (a stumblingblock that you have set up in your heart) to separate you from God, He will use a false prophet to deceive you. Then He’ll destroy that false prophet. (Joseph Smith, Judge Rutherford, Sun Myung Moon, Garner Ted Armstrong, etc., etc., etc.!).
- a. God gave us His truth in the Bible. If you want the truth, He’ll make sure you get it. If you don’t want it, God will give you what you want; He’ll let you have the lie that you’re looking for.
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6. **NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANS** (1 Corinthians 5:1-5). God tells the Christian not to fornicate. If a Christian commits that sin and persists in it, God will deliver them to Satan for the destruction of the flesh (STD’s and unwanted pregnancy will do it). God doesn’t force Christians to be pure, but if you insist on committing iniquity, you bring yourself into a very dangerous situation.
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7. **LOST PEOPLE DURING THE TRIBULATION** (2 Thessalonians 2:7-12). God will allow people who don’t *love the truth* to be deceived by the Antichrist.
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8. **GATHERING ALL THE ARMIES TO ARMAGEDDON** (Revelation 16:12-14). God will use the hatred of His truth as the means to gather all the armies together to battle the only people left on earth who still love God’s truth; the Jews. “*Spirits of devils*” will work miracles to gather the kings to the battle (vs.14) so that God can destroy them all at one time and in one place.
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