

ABCD's of Deliverance

Class 5 - Don't Give Place to the Devil

Ephesians 4:25–27 NKJV “Therefore, **putting away lying**, ‘Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,’ for we are members of one another. **26** ‘Be angry, and do not sin’: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, **27 nor give place to the devil.**”

1. Lying, anger, and wrath are all associated with giving Satan place in our lives.
2. We must deal with these things quickly if they come up in our lives.
 - a. Our new Nature is Love
 - b. **1 Corinthians 13:4-8 AMPC** “Love **endures long** and is **patient and kind**; love **never is envious** nor boils over with **jealousy**, is not **boastful or vainglorious**, does not display itself **haughtily**. It is not **conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride)**; it is **not rude** (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God's love in us) **does not insist on its own rights or its own way**, for it is **not self-seeking**; it is **not touchy or fretful or resentful**; it **takes no account of the evil done to it** [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong]. It **does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness**, but **rejoices when right and truth prevail**. **Love bears up under anything** and everything that comes, **is ever ready to believe the best of every person**, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening]. **Love never fails** [never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end]. As for prophecy (the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose), it will be fulfilled and pass away; as for tongues, they will be destroyed and cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away [it will lose its value and be superseded by truth].”

Acts 5:1–5 NKJV “But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. **2** And he **kept back part of the proceeds**, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles’ feet. **3** But Peter said, ‘Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? **4** While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? **You have not lied to men but to God.**’ **5** Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So **great fear came upon all those who heard these things.**”

1. The Bible clearly states that Ananias was responsible for allowing Satan to fill his heart to lie.
2. The right thoughts have the ability to conceive life, the wrong thoughts have the ability to conceive death.

I'd like to bring up two more satanic influences in Peter and Judas.

Peter...

Matthew 16:21–23 NKJV “From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and **suffer many things** from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be **killed**, and be **raised the third day**.” 22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, ‘Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!’ 23 But He turned and said to Peter, ‘**Get behind Me, Satan!** You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.’”

1. Notice that Jesus directly addresses Peter’s mindset in the context of rebuking Satan. “You are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.”
2. From a human perspective, Peter’s response makes perfect sense. He loves Jesus and doesn’t want Him to suffer or die. Yet his reasoning is contrary to God’s redemptive plan.
3. Jesus says, “You are an offense to Me.” The Greek word *skandalon* (σκάνδαλον) refers to a stumbling block, trap, or something that causes someone to stumble.
4. Peter’s human reasoning had become a stumbling block placed in opposition to what Jesus had been sent to accomplish. Jesus recognizes the satanic opposition behind the temptation and immediately rejects it: “Get behind Me, Satan!”

Romans 8:5-6 NKJV “For those who live according to the flesh **set their minds** on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be **carnally minded is death**, but to be **spiritually minded is life and peace**.”

1. **Peter, was thinking from man’s perspective rather than God’s.**
2. Something can **feel reasonable from a fleshly perspective while still contradicting God’s perspective.**

Matthew 22:37 NKJV “Jesus said to him, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.””

1. Our minds are to be a place of intimacy between us and God. Let’s set our minds on things of the Spirit.

Let’s look at the next verse to get further context...

Matthew 16:24-25 NKJV “Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him **deny himself**, and **take up his cross**, and **follow Me**. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.”

1. Jesus began to give Peter and all of his disciples the mindset of heaven. Deny yourself —> Take up your cross —> Follow me.
2. What is one of our greatest defenses against the mindset of this world? The renewing of our minds! As our minds are renewed by God’s Word, we become increasingly able to recognize what agrees with God and reject thoughts that oppose His will.

II Corinthians 10:3-5 NKJV “For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for *pulling down*

*strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing **every thought into captivity** to the obedience of Christ,”*

1. Notice the aggressive language: **Pulling down.Casting down.Bringing captive.**
2. Paul isn't describing someone who passively accepts everything that enters his thinking. A thought presents itself. **Does it agree with Christ?** If not, I don't have to entertain it, nurture it, meditate upon it, or build my life around it.
3. **A thought entering your mind is not necessarily the same thing as giving place to that thought.** Jesus Himself was tempted. The issue becomes what we **entertain, believe, agree with, and act upon.**

Judas...

John 13:25–27 NKJV

25 “Then, leaning back on Jesus’ breast, he said to Him, ‘Lord, who is it?’ **26** Jesus answered, ‘It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it.’ And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. **27** Now after the piece of bread, **Satan entered him.** Then Jesus said to him, ‘What you do, do quickly.’”

1. Notice the progression in Judas. John tells us that Judas was already stealing from the money box (John 12:6). Then the devil put the betrayal into Judas’s heart (John 13:2). Finally, after Judas continued down that path, John tells us, “Satan entered him” (John 13:27). What Judas tolerated eventually carried him somewhere he probably never imagined going.
 - a. **Greed/theft → satanic suggestion → Judas’s cooperation → Satan entered him**
2. It was at this moment he was influenced to do what the other disciples would have considered unthinkable. Think of all that Judas could have been. Let this be a warning to all of you that even in the presence of the greatest teaching, and greatest miracles there will still be those that listen to the voice of Satan.

So how do we keep from giving the devil place? We cannot control every thought or temptation that comes against us, but we can control what we entertain, what we agree with, and what we allow our flesh to practice. Paul understood that following Jesus required discipline.

Let’s look at the words of Paul...

1 Corinthians 9:24–27 NLT “Don’t you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! **25** All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. **26** So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. **27** I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, **I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.**”

1. In other words, putting the flesh under and being disciplined is insurance against disqualification.
2. Let's live our lives with our eyes set on Jesus, intent on finishing our own race.
3. **Hebrews 12:11 AMPC** "For the time being no discipline brings joy, but seems grievous and painful; but afterwards it yields a peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it [a harvest of fruit which consists in righteousness—in conformity to God's will in purpose, thought, and action, resulting in right living and right standing with God]."

James 4:7-10 NKJV "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."