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Words to Christ Wonderful Find: King Omega Deliverer Light Redeemer Advocate **Everlasting** Lord Saviour Alpha Author Faithful Mediator Shepherd Blessed First Messiah Truth

A Soft Answer

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Although many continue to defend themselves this way, disregarding totally the feelings others, it is not the biblical way of handling an argument. The Bible tells us that vicious, biting words will only increase the flame of anger. A soft, controlled, thought-out response, however, can stop an argument before it has begun.

Imagine an argument, when you are ready to go for the jugular; ready to verbally give it all your vehement tongue can spit out. After you have aired your opinion, the arguee, calmly looks up, with

true sincerity in his tone and countenance as he softly replies, "I'm sorry you feel that way. I didn't mean to offend you. Please forgive me."

Gulp! Cough! It was not the response you expected. Immediately your anger seems out-of-place, and you wonder if you may have lost four feet in stature.

A soft answer, although many times a humbling, difficult response to give, is a solution that many times will stop a battle before it can begin. Humility and kindness are small prices to pay for peace.

More articles can be found at: http://www.OpenThouMineEyes.com



Satan — The Enemy

Bill Brinkworth

Just as there is a God, Holy Spirit, and Jesus; there is a real enemy. He is most commonly referred to as Satan.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12

According to Ephesians 6:12,



there is a battle going on in this world. If we are born into the family of God by the spiritual birth (John 3:3), we are on the winning side. We will battle much

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A Soft Answer

Bill Brinkworth

"A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger." Proverbs 15:1

"You did too! I saw what you did," screamed the red-faced six-year-old.

"I did not. You did not see that," responded her older brother at a decibel level just short of a sonic-boom, "You're always making mistakes. All the other kids know that. That's why they don't like you," he continued with a lashing remark designed to get his point across and to do a lot of damage to his opponent. Grievous words! Offensive responses to an argument that hurt!

Sometimes these retorts are meant to get the upper edge in an argument. Sometimes they accidently slip out in a time of anger. No matter the reason, the grief to the receiver and the belittlement that is often afflicted is usually the same. It is a terrible thing that many afflict others with in a time of anger.

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Satan — The Enemy

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of our lives with the weakness of our own flesh. Some battles, however, may be influenced by Satan. We should certainly know more about him. Here are some biblical facts about our enemy:

Mis other names include: Abaddon, Apollyon, Beelsebub, Belial, Satan, Lucifer, prince of devils (Mat. 12:24), devil, prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2), prince of this world (John 15:30), son of the morning (Isa. 14:12), prince of devils (Mat. 12:24).

SoHe is a cherub: "<u>Thou art the anointed cherub</u> that covereth ... Eze. 28:14. Cherubs have at least two wings.

with Adam and Eve: "Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; "How art thou fall heaven O Lucifer so

Be He was a beautiful creature created by God to make music for Him: "... every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created." Eze, 28:13

35 "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of

thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, ..." Eze. 28:17

The idea that Satan is an ugly, red, pitchfork-wielding, six winged, and tailed creature is not from the Bible. Those images were created from older literature as Dante Alighieri's Italian poem, *Divine Comedy* written between 1308 -1321.

Me was perfect until he sinned: "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee." Eze. 28:15.

BoHe was proud and thought himself a God: "For thou hast said in thine heart, ... I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High ..." Isa. 14:13-15.

He was thrown out of heaven: "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, ..." Isa. 14:12.

SoSatan could provoke nations, as he provoked Israel: I Chron. 21:1. He tried to get David to number Israel. Also: Isa. 14:12.

Satan could tempt even Jesus: Luke 4:1-13.

BOHe can fill one's heart with the wrong ideas, if we let him: "But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?" Acts 5:3.

If f (the devil) can make men dance upon the brink of kell as though they were on the verge of keaven." — Spurgeon

"When I hear of anybody losing his temper, I always pray that he may not find it again. Such tempers are best lost." — Spurgeon

So Satan can transform himself into an angel of light: II Cor. 11:14-15. As this angel, he can deceive many into thinking he is good or helpful.

EXPHe is behind much of the false, unbiblical religions: "... <u>I know</u> the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan." Rev. 2:9.

whomever he can: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:" 1Pet. 5:8.

SoSatan has free reign to travel throughout the world: "And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it." Joh 2:2.

EOGod can allow Satan to test, and even bring bodily harm to God's people: "And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. ..." Job 1:12

SoHe is the accuser of the brethren: "... for the <u>accuser of our brethren</u> is cast down, which ac-

cused them before our God day and night." Rev. 12:10.

BoHe can control people: "... he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men." Ma.r. 8:33 Also: Luke 22:3

SOHe can influence us, if we are weakened by sin, and if God gives him permission to do so (Job 1).

Bo He is a murderer and liar: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him..." John 8:44.

created by God as a place of punishment for Satan and the devils that followed him: "... Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:" Mat. 25:41.

BOHe will temporarily be bound during the millennial reign of Christ: ".. the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, ... till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season." Rev. 20:2-3.

Be will eventually end up in hell and the lake of fire: "Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit." Isa 14:15

A more complete version of this study is available at: www.OpenThouMineEyes.com/Lessons/Satan.htm