

Chestatee Prayer Ministry Team presents...

Know Your Enemy

A new study group
about the Bible & the
Spirit of Prophecy



NEXT STUDY

DEC 7

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CHURCH

SATAN'S SCHEMES 🗡️

Part 3 - The Church Under Attack

1 Peter 5:8 KJV

Be sober, be vigilant; because your **adversary** the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

Ezekiel 3:17 KJV

Son of man, I have made thee a **watchman** unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

"I have been shown that Satan has not been stupid and careless these many years, since his fall, but has been learning. He has grown more artful. **His plans are laid deeper, and are more covered with a religious garment to hide their deformity.** The power of Satan now to tempt and deceive is *ten-fold greater* than it was in the days of the apostles. His power has increased, and it will increase, until it is taken away. His wrath and hate grow stronger as his time to work draws near its close."

Spiritual Gifts, Vol 2, pg 277

The Safeguard

"Our only safeguard against the wiles of Satan is to **study the Scriptures diligently**, to have an intelligent understanding of the reasons of our faith, and faithfully to perform every known duty" Review & Herald, 1908

Isaiah 8:20 KJV

To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

"Only those who have been **diligent students**

of the Scriptures and who have received the love of the truth will be shielded from the powerful delusion that takes the world captive. By the **Bible testimony** these will detect the deceiver in his disguise. To all the testing time will come. By the sifting of temptation the genuine Christian will be revealed. Are the people of God now so firmly **established upon His word** that they would not yield to the evidence of their senses? Would they, in such a crisis, cling to the Bible and the **Bible only**? Satan will, if possible, prevent them from obtaining a preparation to stand in that day. He will so arrange affairs as to hedge up their way, entangle them with earthly treasures, cause them to carry a heavy, wearisome burden, that their hearts may be overcharged with the cares of this life and the day of trial may come upon them as a thief." *The Great Controversy*, Ch 39

FOUR WAYS THE REMNANT IS ATTACKED

False Doctrine (false teachers)

2 John 1:10 KJV

If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house,

neither bid him God speed

Acts 20:28-31 KJV

[28] Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. [29] For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. [30] Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. [31] Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

These false teachers, arising in the church and accounted true by many of their brethren in the faith, the apostle compared to "wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever." **2 Peter 2:17.**⁴¹*The Acts of the Apostles, 535.*

Are our feet planted on the rock of God's immutable word? Are we prepared to stand firm in defense of the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus? **42***The Great Controversy, 594.*

Satan is constantly endeavoring to attract attention to man in the place of God. He leads the people to look to bishops, to pastors, to professors of theology, as their guides, **instead of searching the Scriptures** to learn their duty for themselves. Then, by controlling the minds of these leaders, he can influence the multitudes according to his will.

When Christ came to speak the words of life, the common people heard Him gladly; and many, even of the priests and rulers, believed on Him.—**The Great Controversy, 593-595.**

Becoming connected to, and trusting of public preachers and speakers with media platforms, even SDA, is dangerous. Don't become attached! You might fall victim to the deceptions that are coming from virtually all of them. Read the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy only. Here in lies our safety.

Nelson

False religions

1 Corinthians 10:20 KJV

But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have

fellowship with devils.

Acts 17:22-23 KJV

[22] Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. [23] For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

Satan's plan is global religious unity, ecumenicalism. This is a trap, and will lead to the false second coming. See Testimonies, Vol 5, pg 698 *Nelson*

Pope in multi-faith Singapore says 'all religions are a path to God'



By Elise Ann Allen



Sep 13, 2024 | Senior Correspondent

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Pope Francis is welcomed by dancing children as he arrives at Singapore Changi International Airport, Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2024. Pope Francis is heading to Singapore for the final leg of his 11-day trip to Asia and Oceania. (Credit: Gregorio Borgia/AP.)

SINGAPORE – In a line that may once again stir reaction in more traditional Catholic quarters, Pope Francis on Friday wrapped up a three-day visit to Singapore, a country with large pockets of at least five different faiths, that “all religions are a path to God.”

“They are like different languages in order to arrive at God, but God is God for all,” the pope said, who had set aside his prepared text and spoke largely off the cuff. “Since God is God for all, then we are all children of God.”

False ministers

2 Corinthians 11:14-15 KJV

[14] And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. [15] Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Acts 20:29 KJV

For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not

sparing the flock.

"In the absence of the persecution there have drifted into our ranks men who **appear sound** and their Christianity unquestionable, but who, if persecution should arise, would go out from us." *Last Day Events*, pg 174

Even local pastors and elders may not be what they appear. Ellen White says that "all the world is a stage" (*Testimonies*, Vol 8, pg 27-27). **Everything needs to be tested by Isaiah 8.20.** *Nelson*

Disunity

1 Corinthians 1:10 KJV

[10] Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

"If there was ever a time when the people of God should **press together**, it is now. God has committed to us the special truths for this time, to make known to the world.... We cannot afford now to give place to Satan by cherishing disunion, discord, and strife.... Divisions in the church dishonor the religion of Christ before the world, and give occasion to the enemies of truth to justify their course.... What are we doing to preserve **unity** in the bonds of peace?"

Ellen G. White, *Testimonies to the Church*
Volume 5, pg 236-238

Disunity is introduced through,

- ≡ ○ Gossip (Proverbs 16.28, Eph 4.29)
- ≡ ○ Slander (Exodus 20.16, Eph 4.31-32)
- ≡ ○ False doctrine (2 Tim 4.3-4)
- ≡ ○ Disputable matters (1Tim 4.7, Rom 14.1)
- ≡ ○ Religious pride (James 4.6, Prov 12.1)
- ≡ ○ Arrogance (Prov 8.13, Ezek 28.17)
- ≡ ○ Hard heartedness (Eph 4.18, Mark 8.17)
- ≡ ○ Open sin (1 Tim 5.19-20, 2 Cor 6.17)
- ≡ ○ Leaven (Luke 12.1-3, Mark 7.6)
- ≡ ○ Lukewarmness (Rev 3.14-22)

≡ ○ And countless other ways

Don't participate in any of these! They are all a trap.