

- The reality of a literal devil is confirmed for us in Scripture.
 Virtually every writer of the New Testament, as well as Jesus himself, mentions the Christian's enemy. Ephesians 6:11
- "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."
 1 Peter 5:8
- "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." 1 John 3:8
- As the battle rages, Satan is determined to _____ God's work on the earth by attacking God's people and trying to nullify our influence.
- How do we stand against the wiles of the devil? In our message this morning, we will uncover three distinct methods that Satan uses to oppose God's people. We will catch a glimpse into Satan's playbook.

First, Satan attempted to block the _____ of God's people. vs. 16

- "Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door
 of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in
 bonds... Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ,
 saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye
 may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God."
 Colossians 4:3, 12
- If Satan can hinder our attempts at prayer, he knows we are powerless against his tactics and schemes.
- This explains why it is so difficult to maintain a consistent
 life. Satan does not want you praying.

Second, Satan transformed himself into an angel of . vs. 17-18 Satan will transform himself into an angel of light and sometimes _ the truth, but he always mixes truth with error. "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 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." 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 Third, Satan instigated persecution against God's . vs. 19-24 "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you." John 15:18-19 "For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake." Philippians 1:29 The believer must stand in the face of persecution. "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." James 1:12