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**The Devil’s Playbook**

(2 Corinthians 2:11 KJV)

*Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.*

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rethren I don't want to obsess you, but I simply want to bring awareness of the devil's common tactics so that you may be able to become acquainted with and ward off his attacks when they happen. Listen Satan isn't brainless or unintelligent, nor is he weak, but he is indeed predictable as well as conventional. If you look around at those who would say that they are being attacked by Satan, more often than not the attacks begin in one place and can be put into one of only a few categories. This is what I call, “The Devil’s Playbook.”

A playbook is a notebook containing outlines and plans for certain situations. It may be best known in the world of sports, such as football, where common techniques and vocabulary relating to game plays and team formations are kept and studied to be carried out on the field. Satan's playbook contains the usual tactics he uses to achieve his ends, which we know is to steal and to kill and to destroy.

(John 10:10 KJV)

***The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.***

You must be mindful and want to be on guard against the devil’s schemes—because the devil is real, and he will do everything he can to mislead us and turn us away from God. The Bible urges us to be alert to the devil’s schemes, “in order that Satan might not outwit us” (2 Corinthians 2:11).

The devil has many tricks up his sleeve—but surely one of his most successful is to make us believe he doesn’t even exist. We may admit that evil is real—but then deny that behind it are demonic spiritual forces bent on our destruction and death. Or we may deny the devil’s true nature by turning him into a harmless cartoon character with a red suit and pitchfork. But Jesus said, “He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him” (John 8:44).

Someone has said that the devil doesn’t need to think up any new tricks—because the old original ones still work! It’s true; lust, pride, power, discouragement, doubt, money, escapism, pleasure, hate, anger, jealousy, selfishness—the ways he attacks us are almost endless. If one temptation doesn’t work, he’ll try another—and he’ll keep on trying until we’re trapped within his snare.

But listen: The most important fact about Satan is that he is a defeated foe! By His death and resurrection, Jesus Christ conquered death and Hell and Satan—and someday His victory will be complete. In the meantime, make sure of your commitment to Christ, and turn to Him every day for the strength you need. And in order to accomplish this task you will need to understand, “The Devils Playbook!”

1. **The Devil's Playground**

We must first understand that the most common place Satan makes his starting play is in the mind. This is why it's said that the mind is the devil's playground. He has the most fun tinkering with your thoughts because he knows that your thoughts are the forerunners to your actions. Because of this, the Bible frequently reminds us!

(Proverb 4:23 KJV)

*Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.*

The bible informs us that the mind is the place from which your issues arise. Now isn't this the truth! Most of the issues you face stem from what you think about. In fact your thoughts have the power to lead you into temptation or hold you captive to things such as hopelessness or depression.