

Does the Devil fight with your emotions?

1. 1 Peter 5:8 - Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. NIV

Be careful—watch out for attacks from Satan, your great enemy. He prowls around like a hungry, roaring lion, looking for some victim to tear apart. TLB

Be sober [well balanced and self-disciplined], be alert *and* cautious at all times. That enemy of yours, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion [fiercely hungry], seeking someone to devour. AMP

2. Eph 6:12 - 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.

3. Matt 16:24 -Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

4. Rom 6:6 - knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;

5. Gal 5:24 - Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

6. Col 3:5 - Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

1. Is the Devil “responsible” for our flesh?

2. Does he, Can he influence our emotions?

3. Does he tempt our flesh?

4. If emotions are part of our “shallow flesh” and spiritual matters are a deeper issue, can we give him too much credit?

5. Can we “excuse spiritual influence away” and take too much personal heavy burdens of guilt and shame when there is possible outside interference?

6. Are emotions exclusively an issue with renewing our mind? Is it a large part?

2 Cor 2 - So I made up my mind that I would not make another painful visit to you. ² For if I grieve you, who is left to make me glad but you whom I have grieved? ³ I wrote as I did, so that when I came I would not be distressed by those who should have made me rejoice. I had confidence in all of you, that you would all share my joy. ⁴ For I wrote you out of great distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to grieve you but to let you know the depth of my love for you. ⁵ If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. ⁶ The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. ⁷ Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸ I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹ Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰ Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹ **in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.**

Does the Devil feel emotions?

Matthew 4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” ⁴ Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶ “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written:

“‘He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” ⁷ Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Matthew 5 - They came to the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gerasenes. ² When He got out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met Him, ³ and he had his dwelling among the tombs. And no one was able to bind him anymore, even with a chain; ⁴ because he had often been bound with shackles and chains, and the chains had been torn apart by him and the shackles broken in pieces, and no one was strong enough to subdue him. ⁵ Constantly, night and day, he was screaming among the tombs and in the mountains, and gashing himself with stones. ⁶ Seeing Jesus from a distance, he ran up and bowed down before Him; ⁷ and shouting with a loud voice, he *said, "What business do we have with each other, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God, do not torment me!" ⁸ For He had been saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" ⁹ And He was asking him, "What is your name?" And he *said to Him, "My name is Legion; for we are many." ¹⁰ And he *began* to implore Him earnestly not to send them out of the country. ¹¹ Now there was a large herd of swine feeding nearby on the mountain. ¹² *The demons* implored Him, saying, "Send us into the swine so that we may enter them." ¹³ Jesus gave them permission. And coming out, the unclean spirits entered the swine; and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, about two thousand *of them*; and they were drowned in the sea.

John 10:10; The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life and have *it* abundantly.

Revelation 12:10 - Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.

It is clear to me that Satan and his demons *do* feel emotions but that they are firmly directed to, and for, an entirely evil purpose. This spirit being (Satan), is now firmly set on a course of evil. Hate, envy and anger are emotions, Satan feels them and so, do his demons.

I believe that Satan and his demons do indeed rejoice when people fall into serious sin, but I don't think God allows Satan or the demonic world access to the knowledge of *exactly who* will finally be saved, so Satan is like one constantly throwing out blows in the hope - and it can only be hope - that one such blow will prove to be fatal, leading to damnation for some individual.

Make no mistake: Satan and his army of demons are real beings - but they are spirit beings - yet they are fully cognizant of human emotions and how to manipulate

them to cause serious anger, doubt, hatred and malice in human hearts but it seems that people still do have a level of choice as to whether they will follow such negative leads. If they *do not* follow, the demons move away, if they *do* follow, demons will attempt to increase their influence.

Can the Devil and his demons read human minds? I believe that, yes, they are fully tuned into what people are doing and feeling, (they can sense your spirit) but especially people who reject God or have hard hearts toward the Holy Spirit.

Can even Christians be influenced by Satan? His influence here is much less, but, yes, in moments, and periods, of weakness he may well be able to come 'on-line' to Christians, especially backsliding Christians, and attempt to negatively influence them, but actual possession would surely not be possible for the true Christian.

Expanding upon what we are saying here, total societies have more fully 'bought into' satanic devices, such as voodoo, and Genocide, or the Nazism of Hitler's Germany. It starts with a feeling, a thought, or an attitude that is contrary to scriptural values and caters to our flesh, then it matures into evil engrained policy for behavior.