

## **“Satan’s Weapons To Destroy Relationships”**

### **Introduction:**

The Apostle Paul’s pattern in writing his epistles (letters) to the first century Churches was to divide his message into two sections → “Doctrine” and “Application”.

--**Doctrine** reveals the things that are true about God and what He has provided for us!

1. The “Birth” truths deal with Justification → How we are saved and secured!
2. The “Growth” truths deal with Sanctification → How we are enabled to grow in the faith and live the “new” life God has given → the “Christ-life” for the “Self-life”!

--**Application** provides practical instruction on the issues of human experience → describing the “fruit of the Spirit” -vs- the sinful “deeds of the flesh”!

### **A. Biblical Observations About Our Enemy:**

--**Note**: Satan never has greater power than God! (He is a \_\_\_\_\_ foe!)

1. He has the ability to “\_\_\_\_\_” our minds to the \_\_\_\_\_!

*“... the God of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel in the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.” II Cor.4:4 (Rom. 12:2, Believer is not to be “conformed”, but “renewed”!)*

2. He has the ability to gain an “\_\_\_\_\_” in our lives!

*“But one whom you forgive anything, I forgive also . . . that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.” II Cor. 2:10-11 (Eph. 6:11, “Put on the full armor of God, that you will be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.” I Pet. 5:8, “Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”)*

### **B. Practical Observation About Human “Love” Relationships:**

(Today’s focus is Marriage, but is also true regarding Parents, Siblings, and other Believers!)

1. In marriage, couples marry with “\_\_\_\_\_”!

--This is like an “\_\_\_\_\_” list of hopes and dreams!

2. There are two primary sources:

- a. Our \_\_\_\_\_;
- b. Our life \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Helpful Statements:

*“If you love me, you will “\_\_\_\_\_” . . . what I \_\_\_\_\_!”*

*“If you love me, you will “\_\_\_\_\_” do . . . what I \_\_\_\_\_!”*

# Satan's Weapons For Destroying Relationships

## I. \_\_\_\_\_:

### A. Description of what happens:

--The thing I thought would \_\_\_\_\_ happen → \_\_\_\_\_!

--Note: Not a "one time" event, but a "\_\_\_\_\_!"

### B. Definition of what happens:

--It is the deep, repeated "\_\_\_\_\_" I experience!

--An Illustration:

### C. A new question is raised:

--"How could you truly \_\_\_\_\_?"  
(In light of what has happened!)

## II. \_\_\_\_\_:

A. Definition: My "\_\_\_\_\_" response to the continued  
"\_\_\_\_\_" of unfulfilled expectations!

B. Key: Every marriage has "\_\_\_\_\_!"

C. Point of Decision: What will I do with my "\_\_\_\_\_?"

a. God's goal → "\_\_\_\_\_" my \_\_\_\_\_, 1 Pet. 5:7.  
*"Casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you."*

b. Satan's goal → "\_\_\_\_\_" on to my \_\_\_\_\_, Eph. 4:26.  
*"Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity ('foothold', 'place to stand')"*

-- Question: "\_\_\_\_\_?"

-- Answer: "It seems "\_\_\_\_\_", "\_\_\_\_\_", "\_\_\_\_\_!"

### III. \_\_\_\_\_:

A. Definition: The **unavoidable** “\_\_\_\_\_” of my choice to  
“*hold on to the hurt!*”

B. Note: This choice is never the “fruit of the \_\_\_\_\_”, Gal. 5:22-23.  
“*But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control . . .*”

--It is always one of the “deeds of the \_\_\_\_\_”, Gal. 5:19-21.  
“*Now the **deeds of the flesh** are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these . . .*”

--This kind of anger is always “\_\_\_\_\_”!

--This puts Satan in “\_\_\_\_\_”; he gains “\_\_\_\_\_”!  
(II Cor. 2:11)

C. Manifestation:

1. “\_\_\_\_\_” abuse →
2. “\_\_\_\_\_” abuse →
3. “\_\_\_\_\_” abuse →

### IV. A \_\_\_\_\_:

A. Definition: The “\_\_\_\_\_” of the relationship I had with the person I loved!

“*A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city, and contentions are like the bars of a citadel (castle).*” Prov. 18:19

Cf: Isaac and Rebekah → Sibling “favoritism” with twin sons;  
Jacob and Esau, broken relationship, Gen. 25, 27

B. Statement: “I don’t \_\_\_\_\_ anything anymore!”

C. Note: This is an unpredictable “\_\_\_\_\_”!

D. Observation: At this stage, the hurtful relationship has “\_\_\_\_\_” you! In the next stage, you “\_\_\_\_\_” the relationship!

## V. A \_\_\_\_\_ Of \_\_\_\_\_ !

A. Definition: Chosen “\_\_\_\_\_” against God!

→ “I know what God says, \_\_\_\_\_ I choose to do what I think is best!”

→ Note: This is the “\_\_\_\_\_” of **bitterness**!

B. Hebrews 12:15.

*“See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no **root of bitterness** springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled.”*

1. A Warning: Do not “come short of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God!”

*“And He has said to me, ‘**My grace is sufficient for you**, for power is perfected in weakness.’ Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.” II Cor. 12:9*

2. A Picture: “Bitterness” is like a “\_\_\_\_\_”!

→ It quickly “takes \_\_\_\_\_”!

3. A Process: “Bitterness” will \_\_\_\_\_ up!”

→ “to germinate” or “sprout up quickly”

4. The Results:

a. “\_\_\_\_\_” →

b. “\_\_\_\_\_” →

5. A Warning:

“**B**\_\_\_\_\_” → “**B**\_\_\_\_\_” → “**B**\_\_\_\_\_”