

Count your blessings...

For the glory of God, and the spiritual edification of those who read these testimonies

The devil's playground

After a great blessing, there is almost always a great trial. We may have a great weekend of fasting, prayers, anointing and blessings from the Lord; but Monday morning there will be something waiting for us, whether at work or home or even from within the church.

Before Jesus began His ministry, He was baptized in the river Jordan. As soon as He came up out of the water, immediately the Holy Spirit descended, a sign of the anointing that came on Jesus. It was after the anointing that God testified of Jesus, a word from the Lord, a sign of prophecy. (John. 3:16).

After such a great blessing from God and the power of the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus, He was driven into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit, to face a great trial from satan himself. To endure the great trial, Jesus had taken the time to fast and commune with His Father, to find out the will of God and His will concerning His ministry.

After seeking the will of God, making decisions, covenants, then the time of great temptation also comes, to test the strength of our new found faith, to see whether it is built on the rock or the sand (Matthew 7:24-27). This is where satan often devours the seeds that fall on stony ground (Luke 8:13), quickly uprooting our faith, and overturning our decisions, and then condemns us for failing again in our Christian walk.

Again we see that after the Last Supper (the first Communion), after sharing bread and wine with Jesus, spending so much time in the Lord's presence, singing a hymn with Him, that satan entered into Judas (Luke 22:3). How could this happen so quickly after being in the Lord's presence? Very often, this happens to us also. After Sunday morning worship, Tarry meetings, Bible Studies and other meetings, we find our spirit is easily disturbed and we act like devils when we return to our houses or even on the return journey.

In Luke 11:24-26, Jesus shows how a house that is swept and clean of one devil, can be repossessed by devils seven times stronger if it is not kept swept and clean. This is how satan uses his wicked devices to constantly defeat us in our spiritual battles.

Let us be alert and aware of such devices used by satan to defeat us. If we are aware that trials, temptations and situations may suddenly arise, especially after receiving blessings from meetings, then we will be careful not to let anything take that blessing from us. We should not let our fallen man's natures resurge and take over us, whilst causing us to lose the blessings. ***"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"*** (1 Peter 5:8).

