

Great Controversy Series
Beware of Satan's Baits & Traps
Chapter 32 - Snares of Satan
 Bible Sermon Study Notes: Cary Rodgers, Jr., pastor

Do you see the SIGNS of the time? Don't miss the message repent and be converted, be ready Jesus is coming extremely soon!

California fires: Almost 6,000 buildings destroyed, 36 people killed

By [Madison Park](#), Steve Almasy and Jason Hanna, CNN

Updated 9:08 PM ET, Fri October 13, 2017 <http://www.cnn.com/2017/10/13/us/california-fires-updates/index.html>

Thirty-six people have been killed since the wildfires began Sunday night, making this outbreak one of the deadliest in state history, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire).

(approximately 250 still missing)

Remember Trump as given as promise the evangelical church (image to the beast) a political voice and power by the joining church and state. What is the latest news concerning these developments?

'We're Saying Merry Christmas Again!' Trump Praises 'Judeo-Christian Values' to Conservative Grassroots – Nash Jenkins, Time Magazine, October 13, 2017 <http://time.com/4981448/value-voters-summit-donald-trump-speech/>

“President Trump defended what he described as America's spiritual bedrock in [an impassioned speech](#) to conservative voters in Washington on Friday, pledging to "stop all attacks on our Judeo-Christian values."

Trump was the first sitting president to address the [Values Voter Summit](#), a yearly symposium of socially conservative leaders and voters who aim "to preserve the bedrock values of traditional marriage, religious liberty, sanctity of life, and limited government that make our nation strong."

"We don't worship government, we worship God," Trump said, to loud cheers. "Our founders invoked our creator four times in the Declaration of Independence. And how times have changed. But you know what? Now they're changing back again."

This is direct fulfillment of Revelation 13:15 “And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.”

“We have a testing message to give, and I am instructed to say to our people, ‘Unify, unify.’ But we are not to unify with those who are departing from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. With our hearts sweet and kind and true, we are to go forth to proclaim the message, giving no heed to those who lead away from the truth.”--Manuscript 31, 1906. {Selected Messages Vol. 3 p 412, Ellen White}

As time comes to a closed, what is Satan's mood toward ALL those who live on this earth?

Revelation 12:12

12 ...Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having **great wrath**, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

Woe (Greek) is an exclamation of grief!

Wrath (Greek) thumos [thoo-mos']-passion (as if breathing hard): - fierceness, indignation.

“Great wrath” reveals the great intensity of Satan’s wrath and it’s worldwide coverage.

How does Peter describe the Devil’s great wrath and what MUST be our spiritual condition in order not to fall victim to it?

1 Peter 5:8-10

8 **Be sober** [not “drunk” on “Babylonian wine”], **be vigilant [keep awake and watch]**; because your **adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:**

9 Whom **resist stedfast in the faith**, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, **stablish, strengthen, settle you.**

We MUST be established firm in the truth by the GRACE of Jesus Christ! We MUST be sober, watch, and pray in order not be devoured by the deceptions of the Devil. **Is it possible not to be taken victim by this roaring lion with great wrath if you are in a church environment drinking the Babylonian wine of spiritualism, humanism, unrighteousness, worldliness, the LGBTQ movement, and unity with the Antichrist, papal Rome?** It IS not possible! Don’t deceive yourself, you will be devoured by Satan’s great wrath! The great majority of churches today have become of den of devouring lions. They have become hot beds of worldliness and deception – tools of the DEVIL!

VERY IMPORTANT: You must be established, strengthen, settled, and have great love for the truth. Your love for Bible truth must be greater than Satan’s hate of the truth. If it is not he will take it from you!

Why will many fall victim to the wrath of Satan and be lost and destroyed?

2 Thessalonians 2:9-12

9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because **they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.**

11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

12 That they all might be damned who **believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.**

In the great controversy God pleads and pleads with ALL world to repent, turn from sin, believe the everlasting gospel and not to believe the lies of the Devil. If those pleads are continually rejected, God gives them up to the strong delusions and deceptions of the Devil.

God’s plea in Ezekiel 33:11 is “I have **no pleasure** in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways.” But those who reject this plea and believe not the truth have **pleasure** in unrighteousness. **God says I have no pleasure, but the wicked say I have pleasure and will be destroyed.**

“Those who have had great light and precious privileges, but have not improved them, will, under one pretext or another, go out from us. Not having received the love of the truth, they will be taken in the delusions of the enemy; they will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and will depart from the faith. But, on the other hand, when the storm of persecution really breaks upon us, the true sheep will hear the true Shepherd's

voice. Self-denying efforts will be put forth to save the lost, and many who have strayed from the fold will come back to follow the great Shepherd. The people of God will draw together and present to the enemy a united front.” Testimonies Vol 6 p. 400

Who does Satan declare ALL out war upon in the last days?

Those who profess godliness but have pleasure in unrighteousness? Those churches who are having super bowl and adult slumber parties? Fish fries and block parties? LGBTQ pride and skate parties? Movie nights and prom nights? NO NO NO

Revelation 12:17

17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Does the text say those who have their membership in a corporate church of any denomination? NO... Those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimonies of Jesus Christ!

BEWARE of the SNARES of Satan! If you don't take heed and pay attention YOU WILL get caught!

“The great controversy between Christ and Satan, that has been carried forward for nearly **six thousand years, is soon to close**; and the **wicked one redoubles** his efforts to defeat the work of Christ in man's behalf and to **fasten souls in his snares**. To hold the people in darkness and impenitence till the Saviour's mediation is ended, and there is no longer a sacrifice for sin, is the object which he seeks to accomplish.” GC 518

Trap with Bait

Snares are traps designed to catch it's victims without notice, like a mouse trap. Every snare and trap has bait, like peanut butter on a mouse trap or a worm at the end of a fishing hook. The bait is designed to attract its victims into the trap unaware is its danger to caught them or even kill them. What's a trap without its bait? **If the trap does not have bait it loses it power to do its work!**

Beware of the Bait!

God is urgently telling the world and the professed people of God to not only to be aware Satan's traps and snares, but to first be beware of the bait. If you are aware of the bait you will not be caught in Satan's traps of destruction both spiritually and physically.

Do you put peanut butter on a mouse trap for the purpose of feeding the mouse? No! Satan temptations are the bait to his deadly traps. Satan cannot make you sin, but he will tempt you to yield to sin. Once he has tempted you to take the bait and sin against God by breaking God's ten commandments, you are in the trap of Satan! The payment for being trapped by Satan's snares is death!

Ecclesiastes 9:12

12 For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.

All of Satan baits of temptations are designed to attract and please our sinful flesh. Satan has 6000 years of perfecting his baits of temptations.

What makes us weak to Satan's bait of temptations?

Psalms 51:5

5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psalms 58:3

3 The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

We are all born with the seeds of sin that grow and mature into sinful fruit. Satan's bait to trap us in his evil devices is designed to appeal and attract our sinful flesh that loves pleasure more than righteousness. We naturally operate in the sinful flesh we are naturally opposes to the things of God and reject the law of God.

Romans 8:7-8

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

Satan knows that are natural sinful flesh hates the law of God. So he knows how to keeps us in his traps of evil by continually feeding us bait that please our fleshy and sinful desires. He makes it appear that we cannot survive or be happy without feasting on his bait.

Out of love and grace for us, what did Jesus do to combat our problem?

Romans 12:3

3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Out of grace and love God has implanted within us a measure of faith. God has given evidence to build our faith. Do you believe the evidence that God has revealed in creation, His Word, fulfilled Bible prophecy, and changed lives? The building of our faith is depended upon abiding in Christ and His Word daily.

Romans 8:1-4

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Jesus reveals that you don't have to live in our sinful flesh. Jesus came to set us free from Satan's snares.

John 8:31-32

31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

The true disciples of Jesus are not caught in the snares of Satan. Even though Satan tempts them with bait to please the flesh, they don't take the bait because they continually feed the spirit.

You don't have to take the bait of Satan's lies. When you abide in Christ daily and turn from sin you have direct access to power to overcome sin daily. This is living in the Spirit. As long as you feed the spirit with the Word of God and starve the flesh you are living in the spirit!

What are some examples of those baits that Satan uses on God's professed people?

Two of the main baits that Satan uses with GREAT success is food and sexuality. He invents food and drinks that taste good to the mouth but is designed benumb the mind physically and spirituality and slowly kill its victims. Foods with high sugar, fat, cholesterol and poisonous chemical compounds were invented by Satan to kill, steal, and destroy. Junk food, sodas, alcohol, and all other unhealthy foods are Satan's baits to trap you!

God food's like fruit, grain, nuts, veggies and seeds are designed to give us vital force, health, and real strength. God's foods are in unison with the health laws of the body.

Think about it. Satan does not tempt us with water, but soda. He does not tempt us with an apple but a sugary chocolate candy bar. His bait is NOT a banana but a heart clogging double cheese pizza!

Satan foods are in rebellion to the physical health laws of the body. When you eat his bait diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, cancer, and other diseases are the results. After you get sick from consuming Satan's food and drink bait he then tempts with another attractive bait, poisonousness pharmaceuticals! Revelation 18:21 calls it "pharmakeia" or sorcery, witchcraft!

Sexuality is a natural human desire that MUST be kept in subjection and control. It is holy and wholesome within the marriage covenant between one male and one female. If it is done outside the marriage covenant physically or by lusting in the mind, it is adultery or fornication, sin that will lead to eternal death. Satan uses pictures, movies, advertisements to seduce people into sexual sin.

"Satan has devised a multitude of ways in which to keep men from serving God. He has invented sports and games, into which men enter with such intensity that one would suppose a crown of life was to reward the winner. At the horse races and football matches, which are attended by thousands and thousands of people, lives for which Christ shed His blood are thrown away. What will become of the souls of the men and boys whose lives are thus extinguished? Will they be counted worthy of the redemption which Christ died to secure for them?" Review and Herald September 10 1901 *"No Other God's Before Me."*

"The prince of the powers of darkness presides in the gaming-room and wherever there is card-playing. Evil angels are familiar guests in these places. There is nothing in such amusements beneficial to soul or body. There is nothing to strengthen the intellect, nothing to store it with valuable ideas for future use. The conversation is upon trivial and degrading subjects. There is heard the unseemly jest, the low, vile talk, which lowers and destroys the true dignity of manhood. These games are the most senseless, useless, unprofitable and dangerous employments the youth can have." Testimonies for the Church, Volume Four, p. 652

"Among the most dangerous resorts for pleasure is the theater. Instead of being a school of morality and virtue, as is so often claimed, it is the very hotbed of immorality. Vicious habits and sinful propensities are strengthened and confirmed by these entertainments. Low songs, lewd gestures, expressions, and attitudes, deprave the imagination and debase the morals. Every youth who habitually attends such exhibitions will be corrupted in principle. There is no influence in our land more powerful to poison the imagination, to destroy religious impressions, and to blunt the relish for the tranquil pleasures and sober realities of life than theatrical amusements." Testimonies for the Church, Volume Four, p. 653

"The powers of Satan are at work to keep minds diverted from eternal realities. The enemy has arranged matters to suit his own purposes. Worldly business, sports, the fashions of the day—these things occupy the minds of men and women.(Testimonies Vol. 9 p.43, EG White)

What decision must you make in order to be free from the bait and snares of Satan?

Acts 3:19

19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

Romans 13:12-14

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

You have to make the decision to not eat the bait! Remember there debate in the great controversy, but don't take Satan bait in the debate! When you recognize the bait always realize there is ALWAYS trap connected to that bait. If you don't want to be constantly tempted to take the bait, get rid of it! Check to see if you have the bait on your phone or in your home. Is the bait in your car or on your book shelf? Is the bait in your fridge or in your bedroom? Cast it out! "Make NOT provision for the flesh.

"When there is no special effort made to resist his power, when indifference prevails in the church and the world, Satan is not concerned; for he is in no danger of losing those whom he is leading captive at his will. But when the attention is called to eternal things, and souls are inquiring, "What must I do to be saved?" he is on the ground, seeking to match his power against the power of Christ and to counteract the influence of the Holy Spirit." GC 518

Remember, If your love for the TRUTH is not greater than Satan's hate of it he will take it from you! Satan hates the truth of God's Word with a passion and he does not want anyone to receive it.

"With the same object he [Satan] is in attendance when men assemble for the worship of God. Though hidden from sight, he is working with all diligence to control the minds of the worshipers. Like a skillful general he lays his plans beforehand. As he sees the messenger of God searching the Scriptures, he takes note of the subject to be presented to the people. Then he employs all his cunning and shrewdness so to control circumstances that the message may not reach those whom he is deceiving on that very point. The one who most needs the warning will be urged into some business transaction which requires his presence, or will by some other means be prevented from hearing the words that might prove to him a savor of life unto life." GC 518

What are two essential things we MUST do daily in order to remain free from Satan traps and not eat his baits?

1 Thessalonians 5:17

17 Pray without ceasing.

Luke 18:1

1 And he [Jesus] spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought **always to pray**, and not to faint;

Luke 21:36

36 Watch ye therefore, and **pray always**, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Ephesians 6:18

18 **Praying always** with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

2 Timothy 2:15

15 **Study** to shew **thyself** approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Study (Greek) – G4704 spoudazō [spoo-dad'-zo] to use speed, that is, **to make effort**, be prompt or earnest: - do (give) **diligence**, be **diligent (forward)**, endeavour, labour, study.

2 Peter 1:10

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give **diligence** [study] to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

Diligence (Greek) – reference G4704 same exact word in Greek, spoudazō [spoo-dad'-zo]

2 Peter 3:14

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be **diligent** [study-spoudazō] that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

Diligent (English) -

1. constant in effort to accomplish something; attentive and persistent in doing anything: a diligent student.
2. done or pursued with persevering attention; painstaking:

Constant prayer and daily personal Bible study is essential for your spiritual growth, freedom from sin, and Satan baits and traps.

“Whenever the study of the Scriptures is entered upon without a prayerful, humble, teachable spirit, the plainest and simplest as well as the most difficult passages will be wrested from their true meaning.” GC 521

If prayer or study is neglected you will be taken by Satan’s baits and traps.

“Satan well knows that all whom he can lead to neglect prayer and the searching of the Scriptures, will be overcome by his attacks. Therefore he invents every possible device to engross the mind.” GC 519

What human baits does Satan use trap many professed people of God?

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 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.

How are these baits detected?

Isaiah 8:20

20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Matthew 7:15-20

- 15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.
 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?
 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.
 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.
 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.
 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

Beware of “Another Gospel”

“The position that it is of no consequence what men believe is one of Satan's most successful deceptions. He knows that the truth, received in the love of it, sanctifies the soul of the receiver; therefore he is constantly seeking to substitute false theories, fables, another gospel.” GC 520

What does the Bible say about “another gospel”?**Galatians 1:6-9**

- 6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:
 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.
 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.
 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

“Another gospel” is another bait of Satan’s to traps us in his evil devices. Modern churches including the SDA corp church is preaching “Another gospel” instead of the everlasting gospel!

What does “another gospel” teach?

- 1) Grace covers and excuses sin
- 2) You will only have victory over sin at the second coming of Jesus
- 3) Lighten up, friendship with the world will convert the world to the church
- 4) The Bible should not be taken literally
- 5) Jesus came to give us a “good time”
- 6) Friendship unites us
- 7) Kissing, hugging, and making others feel good is love
- 8) Rebuke is not love, it is hateful
- 9) It does not matter what you eat and how you dress

This is another gospel, not the everlasting gospel that give you victory over sin through the power of Jesus Christ. “Another gospel” is not hatred towards sin but a love for it. “Another gospel” claims to worship the Jesus of the Bible, but they are worship a false Christ that Jesus warns us about!

“The vague and fanciful interpretations of Scripture, and the many conflicting theories concerning religious faith, that are found in the Christian world are the work of our great adversary to confuse minds so that they shall not discern the truth.” GC 520

“Those who are unwilling to accept the plain, cutting truths of the Bible are continually seeking for pleasing fables that will quiet the conscience. The less spiritual, self-denying, and humiliating the doctrines presented, the greater the favor with which they are received. These persons degrade the intellectual powers to serve their carnal desires. Too wise in their own conceit to search the Scriptures with contrition of soul and earnest prayer for divine guidance, they have no shield from delusion. Satan is ready to supply the heart's desire, and he palms

off his deceptions in the place of truth. It was thus that the papacy gained its power over the minds of men; and by rejection of the truth because it involves a cross, Protestants are following the same path. All who neglect the word of God to study convenience and policy, that they may not be at variance with the world, will be left to receive damnable heresy for religious truth. Every conceivable form of error will be accepted by those who willfully reject the truth.” GC 523

What is the purpose of the Bible?

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Romans 15:4

4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

Habakkuk 2:2-3

2 And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

“The word of God is plain to all who study it with a prayerful heart. Every truly honest soul will come to the light of truth. "Light is sown for the righteous." Psalm 97:11. And no church can advance in holiness unless its members are earnestly seeking for truth as for hid treasure.” GC 521

The Word of God reveals truth for our salvation. It gives enough to build our faith, but we cannot go outside of what God has already revealed. This is extremely dangerous to our faith.

“It is a masterpiece of Satan's deceptions to keep the minds of men searching and conjecturing in regard to that which God has not made known and which He does not intend that we shall understand. It was thus that Lucifer lost his place in heaven.” GC - 523

“There is nothing that he desires more than to destroy confidence in God and in His word. Satan stands at the head of the great army of doubters, and he works to the utmost of his power to beguile souls into his ranks. It is becoming fashionable to doubt.” GC 526

We are without excuse. God is true, His word is true!

Romans 1:20

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

What is the purpose of the fiery trials of temptations that God allows His faithful to go through?

“The followers of Christ know little of the plots which Satan and his hosts are forming against them. But He who sitteth in the heavens will overrule all these devices for the accomplishment of His deep designs. The Lord permits His people to be subjected to the fiery ordeal of temptation, not because He takes pleasure in their distress and affliction, but because this process is essential to their final victory. He could not, consistently with His own glory, shield them from temptation; for the very object of the trial is to prepare them to resist all the allurements of evil.” GC 528

Through the fiery trials that God allows to come our way, we MUST stay faithful to truth.

Can Satan stop the work of God?

“Neither wicked men nor devils can hinder the work of God, or shut out His presence from His people, if they will, with subdued, contrite hearts, confess and put away their sins, and in faith claim His promises. Every temptation, every opposing influence, whether open or secret, may be successfully resisted, "not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Zechariah 4:6. GC 529

Listen: Your zeal to share Bible TRUTH must be greater than Satan’s zeal to stop you!

What is our ONLY security not to yield to the baits and temptations of Satan?

“Satan is well aware that the weakest soul who abides in Christ is more than a match for the hosts of darkness, and that, should he reveal himself openly, he would be met and resisted. Therefore he seeks to draw away the soldiers of the cross from their strong fortification, while he lies in ambush with his forces, ready to destroy all who venture upon his ground. **Only in humble reliance upon God, and obedience to all His commandments, can we be secure.**” GC 530

Appeal...

“Satan will use every opportunity to seduce men from their allegiance to God. He and the angels who fell with him will appear on the earth as men, seeking to deceive. God's angels, also, will appear as men, and will use every means in their power to defeat the purposes of the enemy. We, too, have a part to act. We shall surely be overcome unless we fight manfully the battles of the Lord.” Manuscript Releases Volume 8 p. 399