

## The Devil's Devices

Recently I read a story about Satan's attack upon the Christian. It went like this: First, he shot a poisonous dart at his heel, but the Christian was unharmed because he had his feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. Satan's next attempt was at his loins; but the Christian repelled this too, because he had his loins girt about with truth. Unsuccessfully, the devil tried a shot at his breast, for there was the breastplate of righteousness. The Christian knocked away another shot with the shield of faith and his helmet of salvation repelled another arrow. However, the devil, not being easily discouraged, slipped around behind the Christian and shot him in the pocketbook and killed him.

The devil is untiring in his efforts to destroy Christians. When the Lord said to Satan, *"From where have you come?"* Satan answered the Lord and said, *"From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it"* (Job 2:2). The devil knows our weaknesses and it is there that he makes his attacks. One of Satan's attacks is made in the area of the Christian's responsibility to give of his means into the Lord's treasury. Many Christians are mortally wounded in the pocketbook. However, we each have a responsibility to do our personal duty regardless of how little we may think or know others give.

I will be judged by my fruit and you by yours (2 Corinthians 5:10). Each of us should give on the first day of the week and give as we have purposed in our heart (1 Corinthians 16:2). Paul wrote, *"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7). Don't let Satan destroy you in the matter of giving. *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour"* (1 Peter 5:8).

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