

Title: THINGS I ADMIRE ABOUT THE DEVIL

Text: Zechariah 3:1-2

Intro: There are two things the devil and I have in common: He hates me and I hate him! So please hear me out. There are some things that the devil do that I wish the children of God would do in ministry. Now don't get me wrong, I am not going to glorify the devil but use him as an example to challenge Christians.

I. THE DEVIL ALWAYS SHOWS UP (Job 1:6-7; 2:1-2).

A. I could only wish that at least half the church members were as faithful as the devil. You'll have to admit, say in the last 3 years, if members would have stayed in church and not just passed through it, we would be adding souls to the church.

B. Now you better believe this: That every time the church meets, the devil will show up to defeat the worship of our God. Folks go to church just to get *hatched, matched or dispatched!*

C. Why do I admire the devil more than some Christians? It's because you can count on him to show up in every service. Some claim they love God but won't show up for His work and services.

D. The church of God is a place where you get: 1) Fellowship; 2) Encouragement; 3) Intercession; 4) Instruction; 5) Correction.

E. Next time the church's doors open, show up and refuse to glorify Satan by your 101 excuses to be absent (Heb. 10:24-25).

II. THE DEVIL NEVER GIVES UP (I Peter 5:8).

A. He will never stop at anything to destroy our church, testimony, joy, and hope. I'm tired with people saying, *"I gave up living for Jesus. It's is too hard."* (Like serving the devil is easy?)

B. Preachers and workers say all the time they want to quit. Now you see why I admire the devil? It's because he won't quit. But you murmur, complain and quit over the slightest distress.

C. The cults and their workers (energized by Satan) endure hardness and are operating 24 hours a day on Radio and TV. They flood out the airwaves with their destructive false doctrines.

D. We are to be steadfast and unmovable (I Cor. 15:58).

III. THE DEVIL WON'T SHUT UP (Rev. 12:10).

A. He won't shut up even to tell God about our past and present sins. He is constantly running his mouth about the brethren and accusing them before God saying, *"Look at that bunch. That's what you suffered, paid and died for, huh?"*

B. He won't shut up talking and convincing you with his lies. Yes, he will talk to you if you just give him the chance. If you listen to him for just a few minutes, he can destroy you. King David listened to him and look what happened between him and Bathsheba. Some popular preachers listened to him for a few minutes and their lives and ministries were history (**Eph.4:27**).

C. He won't shut up telling you that it is alright to have a little – worldly fashion, pop music, internet porn, entertainment, wine, smoke, drugs, partying, flirting, etc. He won't tell you later about miserable lives destroyed by such (**II Tim. 2:22; I Pet. 2:11**).

D. I could only wish that Christians would stop imitating the devil and shut their mouths by not gossiping, backbiting, lying, and deceiving among themselves (Eph. 4:25, 29, 31**).**

E. I could only dream that Christians were as zealous as the devil in testifying about Christ our Redeemer not only at church, but at home, school, office, and the neighborhood (Psa. 107:2**).**

I say again that I admire the devil because he won't shut up!

IV. THE DEVIL WILL SOON SETTLE UP (Rev. 20:10**).**

A. Some people say the devil is already bound to a chain in hell. Well, it must be a long chain because I have run into him several times at home or elsewhere in Angeles, Olongapo, Manila, Baguio, Cebu, Iloilo, on the road, aboard ships, or in the air!

B. Yes, Satan is alive and well, that's the bad news! But the good news is he won't be doing very well for as long as you are walking in the Spirit and not in the flesh (Gal. 5:16; Rom. 6:12**).**

C. Mark this, the devil and his servants are going to settle up with God for all their sins. My Lord and Saviour will one day cast them all into the Lake of Fire (**Matt. 25:41; Rev. 21:8**).

D. Now in closing, I want the devil to know that I'm against him and all his servants. I know that he is listening to me right now and I want to tell that old serpent and dragon... "*Whether you like it or not Mr. Satan, you are about to settle up with my God and Saviour, and I look forward to the day when you burn forever in the Lake of Fire with all your angels!*" Amen and Amen!!

Conclusion: Brethren, WHENEVER SATAN REMINDS YOU OF YOUR PAST, REMIND HIM OF HIS FUTURE! Friends, maybe there is someone listening among you right now who needs to settle some things amiss with your church or your Lord. Maybe you need to get right with God and asked Him to save you before it's too late. Friends, get right with God and let's get the devil out!!