

certainly are many of them utterly ridiculous, it is easy to reach against them and to act as if they did not exist.

~~Tixxu~~ When you think of this man pretending to be a Christian minister actually a Communist led hundreds of people to go to S. America and got them so completely under his control that for some reason or other, I don't quite know why, he would lead them all to commit suicide. Certainly it shows the tremendous power of Satan to use a man claiming to be a Christian to do what he did. Of course it brought great oblique against Christianity because the man claimed so definitely to be a Christian. ~~(Satan)~~ And enemies of Christianity point to him as if he were. His power we must never forget to resist, but the other extreme is to blame our sin on Satan! We cannot do that.

We are commanded not to say that God has tempted us; God does not tempt any man. We are tempted of our own lusts. We are tempted by the sin in our hearts. Certainly Satan does endeavor to mislead us, but that's no excuse for us. We're all to ready to blame our sin upon Satan.

Then some go to the opposite extreme from denying Satan's existence to having an inordinate fear of Satan. Some have lost their minds through this. But no true Christian should ever have that attitude toward Satan. His power is terrible. We must recognize it. But God's power is far greater and it's always available for us.

Another aspect I mentioned last time and I'd like to say more about: Satan can lead us to fail to help other people -- other Christians when we should. God leaves us on earth, I believe for three purposes after we are saved. He leaves us here in order that we may grow in grace, and become what He wants us to. He leaves us here in order to lead others to know Christ. He leaves us here in order to help others to grow in grace.

One of the mistakes I made, that I greatly regret was one time when I visited an old friend. I had known this friend for some years and had admired his quite but positive testimony for Christ. The way that he was able to comport himself and to make a really good testimony for the Lord. I felt that he was more advanced in the things of the Lord than I was. But I did not see him for two or three years. Then I had an opportunity to see him and we spent several hours together, and I felt there is no need of my trying to help him in any way. He is ahead of me in Christian life and understanding. I just spent the two hours with him in causal discussion and reminiscing over events, telling him of ~~xxx~~ recent experiences, etc. And I found out later on that he was at that time having a very great spiritual crisis in his life. And later on he completely turned away from any testimony for Christ.

I have not heard about him greatly since, but what I have heard had not been at all favorable to him as a Christian. Whether he has completely abandoned any testimony, I don't know.