

## **Don't Let the Devil Use You to Attack Jesus**

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From the opening pages of Genesis we watch a powerful drama as the Serpent, who tempted and led mankind astray, and the promised Seed of the Woman who would bruise his heel and crush his head.

As God moved through Israel, His earthly people, it seemed as though the kingdom had indeed come in power. At other times the oppressive power of evil subdued and controlled God's people that the battle seemed hopeless.

In the fullness of time the Lord Jesus was born and his life revealed this terrible battle. His gracious words and magnificent works assured Israel He was the promised Messiah. But His public execution as a common criminal dashed their hopes. How can The Messiah die on a cross when the hope of Israel was political and physical deliverance from their Roman enemies? It seemed as though the powers of darkness had prevailed and the Seed of the Woman had been overcome. Any establishment of His promised kingdom was gone.

With hindsight we now know He rose from the dead. He was born sinless, He lived without breaking the Law and Torah was His daily guide, so death could not hold Him. The wage of sin is death, but Messiah did not sin. What appeared to be Satan's apparent victory over the Seed of the Woman was his downfall. By instigating the illegal death of The Lord of Life he actually permitted Christ, who alone had the right to break the hold of death, to enter his kingdom. His head, authority, was crushed.

“Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil” (Heb. 2:14). The Greek word *dunamis* isn't used. The “hold of death” is better.

When the Lord Jesus willingly shed His substitutionary blood and the wicked crowds howled with glee it seemed Satan was the winner, but he actually lost the hold or authority he

had until then possessed. Verse 15 says, “And released those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”

Satan had a legal right to bind fallen mankind in bondage and death, but the Lord Jesus exchanged His righteous sinless life for all mankind. When Satan used the depraved religionists and killed an innocent victim he lost any authority he had possessed.

Satan had the hold or power of death because of God’s Law. “The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.”

That is why men were not authorized to cast out devils until Christ first fulfilled the righteous demands of the Law. Victory over death and the casting down of Satan must come first, and they did. Christ delivered the sinner from the Law of sin and death and the authority of Satan.

There are piles of satanic misinformation about the Christ including the denial of His Virgin Birth, rejection of His miracles and ministry, relating His death to that of any ordinary man, and above all absolute denial of His bodily resurrection. They say the biblical records, called the Gospels, are fabricated and untrue. The *Jesus Seminar* composed of forty self-named scholars have gone on record as declaring only a few words in the Bible were actually said by Jesus. The Bible calls them God’s enemy; today they are called Liberal Christians.