

# The Devil Is In The Details

## I. Introduction:

### A. One common saying of the world is: "The devil is in the details"

1. Since the devil is the god of this world (**I John 3:8-10**; cf. **II Corinthians 4:3-4**), the world is a credible source for a such a statement.
2. Think about the root meaning of that statement. What is hiding in the details (**John 8:44**)?
3. As we proceed, think about those "fine print" contracts, sales agreements, contracts, user agreements, hidden doctrines in lessons by false teachers, etc. Things aren't going to improve either (**II Timothy 3:13**).

### B. We are not supposed to be easy targets for those seeking to gain advantage (**Proverbs 14:15**, **Matthew 24:4**, and **Ephesians 5:6-11**).

1. Now that the one faith is delivered, and fully equips us (**II Timothy 3:15-17** and **II Peter 1:3**) let's not be caught off guard by the "sleight of men" (**Ephesians 4:14**).
2. We are supposed to be wise concerning these things (**Colossians 4:5**).

## II. Body: He Was A Liar From The Beginning... In The Details (**Genesis 3:1-7; 19-24**).

### A. Through subtlety [cunning craftiness] (**II Corinthians 11:3**).

1. Consider how they approached Jesus (**Luke 20:19-26**).
2. This behavior is to be renounced by us (**II Corinthians 4:2**).
3. We have to be aware of people's usage of such tactics lest we get caught by it (**Colossians 2:4-8**).

### B. We should know that people are often deceptive (**Psalms 12:1-2**, **Psalms 28:3**, **Proverbs 26:24-28**, and **Jeremiah 12:6**).

1. Think about what Jesus said to His disciples (**Matthew 10:16**, **Luke 10:3**, and **John 15:18-19**).
2. Since you are honest (**I Thessalonians 4:12**), kind (**Colossians 3:12**), etc.; you are a target fo evildoers (**I Peter 4:12-14**).
3. How should we act as such (**Matthew 7:15-20**)?

### C. Consider some examples... (**II Corinthians 2:11** and **I Thessalonians 5:21**)

1. Someone may be looking out for your well-being physically (doctors; family members; etc.) with their advice, suggestions, offers, etc.; but what about your spiritual well-being? We must understand that some people are not capable of giving counsel that will take our souls into consideration (**I Corinthians 2:1-14**)?
2. How about "may I help you" which is really "may I help you help me get paid"? Don't false teachers use such tactics (**II Peter 2:1-3; 18-22** and **I John 2:24-26**)?

3. How about those whom meaningfully deceive like they are just “playing around” (**Proverbs 26:18-19**).
4. Just because someone uses Scriptures, that doesn’t mean they are teaching you the truth (**Matthew 22:23-33**).
5. Even the world suggests not to trust a uniform, but to properly identify someone. Why, (**II Corinthians 11:12-15**)?
6. Don’t be shocked that some “appear” godly (**II Timothy 3:1-6**).

III. Conclusion: Remember, in this world, who you are and who they are (**Matthew 13:24-30; 34-43**). So, as we often discuss, judge righteously (**John 7:24**) and not by using worldly wisdom (**II Corinthians 1:12**).