

Can You Explain The Devil?

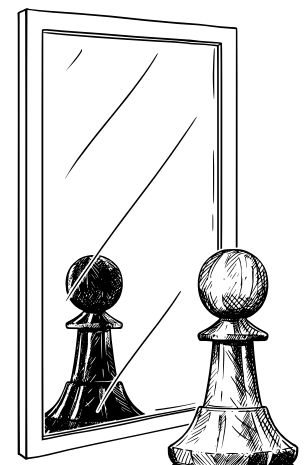
Introduction. The devil is an actual being (Matt. 4: 3-11). The devil is the author, if you will, of evil (cp. John 8: 44). He is presented as man's adversary ("Satan," adversary, 1 Pet. 5: 8). He is known as "the tempter" (Matt. 4: 3), "Beelzebub" (Matt. 12: 24), and "the wicked one" (Matt. 13: 19). Devil (Gk. Diabolos, the accuser) is another name (John 8: 44).

The origin of the devil. The scriptures are not explicit in the matter of the origin of the devil. However, I believe the premise "all things not created are deity" is true. Jesus, the Word, created all things; hence, the devil is a created being. Most people believe he is a fallen angel. However, this view is not without problems, given the contrast between how God generally punishes sinful angels per 2 Pet. 2:4 versus the relative freedom God permits the devil (Gen. 3; Job 1:6-12; Luke 4:1-13; 1 Peter 5:8). Perhaps the best answer in keeping with Deut. 29:29 is "we do not know."

The devil enjoys limited power. God had to grant the devil special power in Job's case (Job 1: 8-11, 12). The devil, though, is in general powerful (Matt. 13: 18, 19, 28, 37-40, 2 Cor. 4: 4, Eph. 2: 2). However, the devil can be resisted (Matt. 4: 1-11). James wrote, "Submit yourselves therefore to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (Jas. 4: 7).

How the devil works. The devil is behind all sin (1 John 3: 8). The devil chiefly works through deception (Rev. 20: 10). Sin itself is deceiving (Heb. 3: 13). The devil often uses humans. He works through false apostles and teachers who appear to the uninformed as "ministers of righteousness" (2 Cor. 11: 13-15, Matt. 7: 15 ff). The devil is a master when it comes to "handling the word of God deceitfully" (2 Cor. 4: 2-4). While the devil enjoys some success, his final destiny is "everlasting fire" (Matt. 25: 41, 46).

Conclusion. God allows the devil to tempt us in order for God to test us (Jas. 1: 2 ff). When we resist the devil, we build character and strength.





Songleader

Jeremiah Darden

Welcome & Announcements
Opening Prayer

Song # 871 - Beautiful

Song # 711 -
Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Lord's Supper
Contribution

Kids 4 Kids
Bible Hour

Prayer Requests

Song # 470 - Victory in Jesus

Scripture Reading -
Luke 22:31-34 (NKJV)

Sermon by:
Darryl Darden

"Peter Principles"

Song of Invitation:
Song # 712 -
Jesus Is Coming Soon

Song # 567 - Restore My Soul
Closing Prayer



This Week's Schedule of Events



**** (In person & Zoom)**

Building Lock Up: Mark McClellan

****9:00 a.m. - Bible Class**

Study of 1 & 2 Timothy

****10:00 a.m.**

Sunday Worship

****10:00 a.m. - En Linea Servicio de
Adoracion (via Facebook Live)**

VBS 2026 Meeting

Join us, following the morning service.

**3:30 p.m. AVAC Worship
with Johnny Latham.**

Mon., Jan. 12th

7 p.m. - Spanish Night of Prayer (Zoom)

7 p.m. - En Linea Noche de Oración

Tues., Jan. 13th

**10 a.m. Tuesday Ladies'
Bible Study**

**"Trust in God in the
Midst of Adversity"**



6:30-7:30 p.m.

**Young Adult Class
Childcare provided.**



Wed., Jan. 14th

**7 p.m.
Bible Study
on Zoom.**



Fri., Jan. 15th

7- 8:30 p.m.

**Men's Bible
Study**

**"Biblical Men's
Roles"**





We will be sending out your 2025 contribution statements. We ask that all members please update their personal information for 2026.

First Name:

Last Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

Please fold and place the completed form in the contribution box located in the back of the auditorium by the door.

JANUARY



**This Week's
Birthday's**



**12th - Quinsee Brown
17th - Sue Darden**

Anniversaries

**13th - Jeremiah & Ga'Brielle
Darden**

VVCOC LADIES' EVENT

Join us for
**Jesus
&
Jammies**



Sat., Jan 17th @ 10 a.m.

Come in your pajamas,
share breakfast, the bible, and each other
together in fellowship.

For questions contact Kayley E.

PANTRY NEEDS



We are asking
our members if you
are able, to donate Box Meals
(Hamburger Helper), Macaroni &
Cheese, and Canned fruit.



*You're Part of
the Family*



Garrett Agnew

was baptized into Christ on
January 4, 2026.

Welcome to the family our new
Brother in Christ, Garrett Agnew
son of Mike and Naomi Agnew.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for our church leaders;
our congregation; the homeless,
and the veterans. Also for our country's
leaders, our troops; and the future of
our country.

Shut-Ins

Barbara Tidwell; Mattie McCarthy;
Sandy Wooten.

Continual Prayers

The Ahumada family; Anthony
Avalos; Charlie & LaVonne Powell;
Christina Wityczak; Gennie Lorenz;
Hosia Ford; Ida Crawford; Kathy Najera;
Marie Guess; and Melanie Gammage.

General

Bernadett Gramling and family;
Caramo family; Cindy Tutton,
her grandkids & dogs; Jake & Danelle
Tess; the church & congregation.

Health

Brother Sergio Navarro, the Barstow
Spanish Minister; Cindy Tutton and her
children; Corlotta Greene; Mark
McClellan and his brother-in-law,
Tim Kula; and Tony Rose.

Thanksgiving

Garrett Agnew; Tiana Smith; Tonya
Patton; our Bible Classes & Teacher;
and those who attend.

For Their Losses

The Holliday, Smith, White, &
Lacy families with their family losses.
Chris Landry with the loss of his sister.
The Macklin family, with the loss
of their mother, Pat.

Victor Valley Church of Christ

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Zoom with us at the vvchurchofchrist.org website
or join by-Phone: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID 428 886 053# Participant ID: #

Elders – elders@vvchurchofchrist.org

Darryl Darden Tony Rose Jake Tess

Ministers

Eric Cimuchowski – Involvement Minister

Darryl Darden – Pulpit Minister

Carlos Orrala – Spanish Minister

Deacons

Benjamin Lopez – Spanish Ministry

Chris Schow – Interior Bldg. Maint.

Craig Beck – Security

Mark Gruwell – Teens

Staff

Bernadett Gramling – Office Manager

Erica Lee – Bookkeeper

Andrea Gómez – Janitorial

Billy Caldwell – Auditorium Seating

How to Make Contributions

Online:

- **Download the Sub Splash App.**
 - **Set up an account**
- **Use the Sub Splash App for online giving.**
 - **Scan the QR code.**



Offline:

- **Cash or check**
- **Mail to P.O. Box**
 - **P.O. Box 3447 Victorville, CA 92393**

Last Week's Statistics

Financial

Contribution 01/04/26	\$	4,032.21	Teen Fund	\$	5,147.00
Contribution 12/28/25	\$	3,241.90	Mission Fund	\$	3,646.00
Special Contributions	\$	456.00	Scholarship Fund	\$	1,180.00
Y.T.D. Contribution	\$	73,850.96	Kids 4 Kids	\$	151.00

Attendance

A.M. Worship

In Person

133

Via Zoom

26