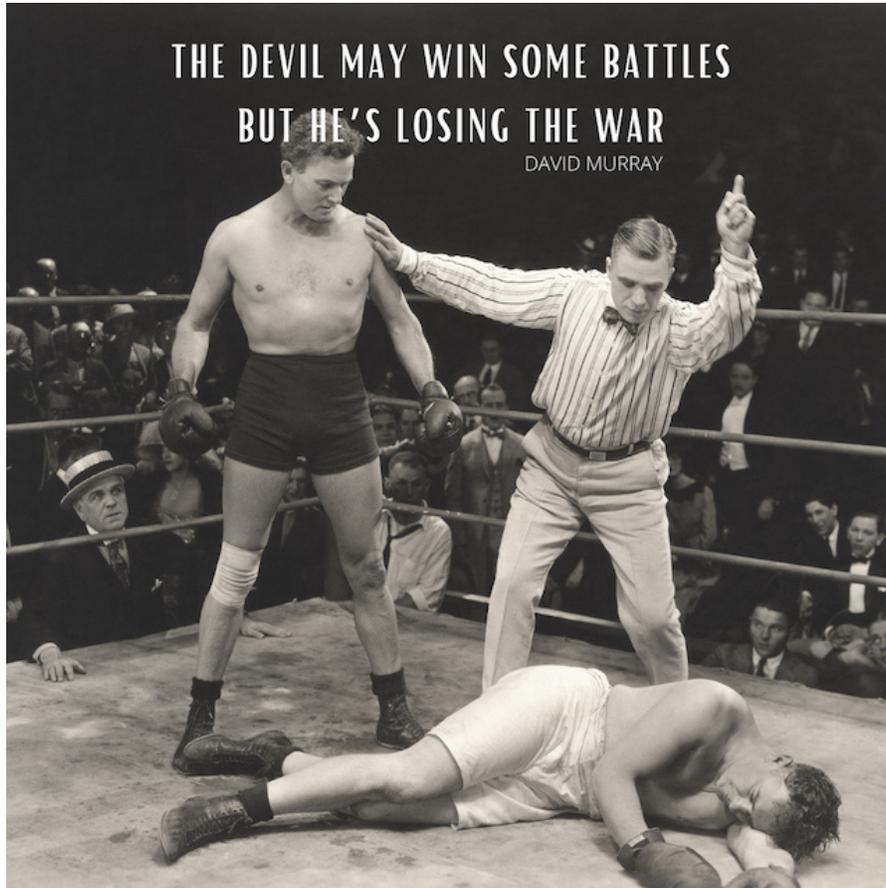

HIS RAGE WE CAN ENDURE, FOR LO, HIS DOOM IS SURE

EXODUS 5



Do you ever feel that the Devil seems to be winning? We look out at the world and we see his defiant, destructive, and divisive power and we worry, 'Is the devil going to win?'

The Bible assures us that despite his horrendous power, the devil is actually a defeated enemy. In Exodus 5, we see his great power, but we also see his certain defeat.

- **THE DEVIL IS DEFIANT (1-2)**
- **THE DEVIL IS DESTRUCTIVE (3-19)**
- **THE DEVIL IS DIVISIVE (20-23)**
- **THE DEVIL IS DEFEATED (6:1)**

LEARNING

THE DEVIL IS DEFIANT (1-2)

When God demanded that Pharaoh release Israel (1), Pharaoh disdained God and his command: **“Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and moreover, I will not let Israel go”** (2).

DEFIANCE IS DEVILISH.

How does that defiance work itself out in practice? The devil goes on the attack to destroy Israel.

THE DEVIL IS DESTRUCTIVE (3-19)

Moses and Aaron persevered and demanded that Pharaoh release Israel to worship God in the wilderness (3). Pharaoh responded by making their slavery even harder. **They are idle**, said Pharaoh, **therefore they cry, 'Let us go and offer sacrifice to our God.'** **Let heavier work be laid on the men that they may labor at it and pay no regard to lying words**" (8-9). All this talk of religion is distracting you, so let me show you how dangerous and damaging such religious lies are.

DESTRUCTION IS DEVILISH

What is the effect of this destructiveness? The devil divides the Israelites and Moses.

THE DEVIL IS DIVISIVE (20-23)

They met Moses and Aaron, who were waiting for them, as they came out from Pharaoh; and they said to them, "The Lord look on you and judge, because you have made us stink in the sight of Pharaoh and his servants, and have put a sword in their hand to kill us" (20-21).

Having divided Israel and Moses, the devil moves on to dividing Moses from God. **Then Moses turned to the Lord and said, "O Lord, why have you done evil to this people? Why did you ever send me? For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has done evil to this people, and you have not delivered your people at all"** (22-23).

DIVISION IS DEVILISH

If the devil is defiant, destructive, and divisive, what hope is there? There's great hope for God's people but no hope for the devil.

THE DEVIL IS DEFEATED (6:1)

But chapter six assures us that his doom is sure. **But the Lord said to Moses, "Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for with a strong hand he will send them out, and with a strong hand he will drive them out of his land"** (6:1). God will defeat the devil and deliver his people.

THE DEVIL MAY WIN SOME BATTLES,
BUT HE'S LOSING THE WAR.

LOVING

The devil often seems to be winning. Our eyes see his defiance, destruction, and division. But our faith sees his defeat. His rage we can endure, for, lo, his doom is sure. We see that here. We see that at the cross. We see that in our own salvation. We see that in every conversion. We will see that at the end of time. How great, how great, is our God!

LIVING

Despite the devil's powerful opposition, have perfect confidence that he will be defeated.
