

VARIOUS SCRIPTURES

SATAN'S WAR ON THE CHURCH

"The history of Christ's true church has always been one of conflict and war. It has been constantly assailed by a deadly enemy, Satan, the prince of this world. The devil hates the true church of Christ with an undying hatred. He is ever stirring up opposition against all its members. He is ever urging the children of this world to do his will, and to injure and harass the people of God. If he cannot bruise the head, he will bruise the heel. If he cannot rob the believers of heaven, he will vex them by the way." — J. C. Ryle

Seven contexts in which Satan makes war against Christ's church:

1. False teaching

2Cor. 11:14; 12:7; Col. 2:15; 1Tim. 1:20; 4:1

2. Missions and evangelism

2Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:2; 1Thess. 2:18; 2Tim. 2:26; Rev. 2:9

3. Persecution

Rev. 2:10

4. Conflict

Eph. 4:26-27; Jas. 3:15; 4:7

5. Church discipline

1Cor. 5:5; 1Tim. 1:20

6. Ungodly living

1Tim. 2:14; 5:15

a. Pride, *1Tim. 3:6-7*

b. Adultery, *1Cor. 7:5*

c. Idolatry, *1Cor. 10:20*

d. Jealousy and ambition, *Jas. 3:15*

e. Unforgiveness, *2Cor. 2:11*

f. Anger, *Eph. 4:26-27*

7. Perseverance

1Tim. 4:1; 1Thess. 3:5

¹ J. C. Ryle, *Holiness* (Carlisle, PA: The Banner of Truth Trust, 2014), 295.