

THE SERPENT'S VOICE AND INFLUENCE

The Serpent Has Spiritual, Literal And Symbolic Applications In Scripture:

- A. The serpent has influence and a voice and is called the dragon, the devil, and satan; Rev. 20:2
1. Eve, the "Woman" was "beguiled" (thoroughly deceived) by the serpent; Gen. 3:1, 13. It utilized seduction, trickery and lies; it twists the Word of God; John 8:44
 2. From the beginning, Genesis 3:6, the serpent has directed his appeal to:
 - a. the lust of the flesh - "good for food"
 - b. the lust of the eyes - "pleasant to the eyes"
 - c. the pride of life - "to make one wise"
 3. The serpent's voice is suggestive; it deceives through enticing, convincing words. It has the ability to change its form and to sway ignorant, weak, unstable individuals; Col. 2:4; 2 Peter 2:14
 4. Those who are sensual, who walk "according to the flesh" (in the dust realm) are providing "meat" (food) for the serpent to feed upon; Isaiah 65:25; Galatians 5:17-21. In contrast, Jesus said My "meat" is to do the Father's will and to finish His work; John 4:32, 34; 6:48-58
 5. The serpent offers a different "substance", a counterfeit diet that unregenerate men desire and consume: doctrines of men, their philosophies, their superstitions, Mysticism, Gnosticism, idolatry, the mystery religions of Babylon, the metaphysical sciences, etc; Acts 17:16-33; 2 Timothy 3:7. What table are you eating from? 1 Corinthians 10:20-21
 6. Its voice affects the minds and thinking of men: some lack knowledge or are willingly ignorant, 2 Pet. 3:5; 2 Cor. 2:11, while others are "puffed up" due to their knowledge; 1 Cor. 8:1
 7. The serpent moves through and feeds upon the "dust realm" (the earthly, carnal minds of men), and his voice speaks through the unregenerate, those whose minds are set on "things beneath"; Gen. 3:14; Micah 7:17; John 8:23. We are to seek that which is "above"; Col. 3:1-2
 8. The serpent represents the bestial spirit of the world (over which he is presently god and prince); Luke 4:5-7; John 12:31. However, we are told that he has already been judged: John 16:11, bruised: Rom. 16:20, and consigned to hell: Matt. 25:41. In the meantime, he utilizes fear, seduces and deceives man by appealing to, and working through his emotions, his sensory knowledge and appetites of the flesh.
 9. The serpent directs men to be led by impressions from the bodily senses, to focus upon the perishable things of a dying world instead of being led by revelation through the Spirit of God; Rom. 8:7-8. He works through the carnal mind and the natural, sensory realm: the sense of sight, the sense of hearing, the sense of smell, the sense of taste, the sense of touch.
 10. Those who are led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God; Rom. 8:14. Those who are led by their carnal mind (through which the serpent's voice operates), walk by sight and not by faith; 1 Corinthians. 3:1,3; 2 Corinthians 5:7.
 11. The serpent's influence will encourage man to be conformed to the image of this world; Rom. 12:2. But we must be conformed to the image of the Son of God; Rom. 8:29, by walking in obedience to the Spirit, and by renewing our minds which leads to our transformation; Eph. 4:23
 12. This voice offers a realm of worldly happiness and fulfillment apart from God's will, causing man to serve "the creature" rather than the Creator; Romans 1:1-20
 13. It appears to have the attributes of a "lamb" but it speaks like a "dragon"; Rev. 13:11
 14. The serpent has the ability to draw men to its supernatural, mystical power; the source of this voice is called the devil, the dragon and satan; Revelation 20:2; 2 Thess. 2:8-9

15. There is true and false wisdom; the serpent is the voice of humanistic wisdom, which causes men to doubt the truth of scripture, to doubt the goodness of God and the wisdom of God. Galatians 3:1; James 3:13-17; Colossians 2:18

16. This voice is conceited and has a sense of superiority; 1 Timothy 3:6. It has an inflated ego, projects self-importance and boasts of its intellect; Matthew 23:23-33; 1 Corinthians 8:1

17. It is self-exalting, appealing to the pride of man who desires attention and recognition above others, who desires to be enthroned or to become an object of worship; Isaiah 14:13-14

18. It is the voice of “another god” (as with the Pharaohs in the O.T.) which accepts and receives worship that is due only to the LORD God Almighty; Acts 13:21-23; 2 Thess. 2:3-4

19. Serpents live around and hide among “rocks and stones”; Prov. 30:19; Luke 19:40; 1 Pet. 2:5

20. When a hedge (wall, a protected fortification) is broken, a serpent can enter in through holes, gaps and broken places and bite a man; Eccl. 10:8. True watchmen “stand in the gap” (intercede) Ezek. 13:5; 22:30. Walls in our lives need repair and must be rebuilt; Neh. 6:1,6,15; Zech. 2:5

21. Ezekiel saw the abominable, “creeping things” in God’s house which had entered through a hole in the wall of the temple; Ezek. 8:7-10; (we must give no “place” to the devil); Eph. 4:27

22. Serpents bit the people and they died; it was a judgment due to disobedience and rebellion; Num. 21:4-7; Deut. 32:24; Jer. 8:17. The remedy for snake bite is: Num. 21:7-9; John 3:14-15

23. Serpents are descriptive of the religious hypocrites in Jesus’ day; Matt. 3:7; 12:34, 23:33

24. Minds are led astray from pure devotion to Christ. The serpent that beguiled Eve speaks through those who preach “another Jesus, with another spirit and another gospel”; 2 Cor. 11:3-4

25. False prophets “bite” with their teeth; Micah 3:5. The serpent gains access through certain men, who have “crept in” subtly (not openly or directly) to seduce the Church with heresies, bringing error in by the side of true doctrine; 2 Tim. 3:6; Jude 4

B. A serpent injects poison (venom) into its victim through a “bite”. Three types of venom (produced by different snakes) are known to cause the following:

1. Hemotoxic Venom - this venom assaults the cardio vascular system; it can damage the HEART (the person’s HEART)

2. Cytotoxic Venom - this venom targets the MUSCLES in the body (the person’s STRENGTH)

3. Neurotoxic Venom - this venom affects the BRAIN (the person’s MIND) and nervous system

C. Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ have been “lifted out of the dust” into the heavens and are given authority over serpents; Exodus 7:9-12, (including its “venom”); Luke 9:1; 10:17:

1. They are called to love the Lord their God; Luke 10:27:

a. with all their HEART

b. with all their STRENGTH

c. with all their MIND

2. When disciples walk in obedience and LOVE toward the Master, the “venom” from a serpent’s bite cannot affect their HEART, their STRENGTH or their MIND!

3. Disciples prevail over the serpents in their path, which are provoked and agitated by those who move into their territory and walk in obedience to the Spirit of God; Matthew 12:14; 27:1

4. Disciples can tread on serpents and scorpions, and trample them underfoot; Luke 10:19

5. A viper’s poisonous bite inflicted upon God’s obedient servant could not deter him from his assignment. Paul had supernatural protection when he preached the Gospel in obedience to the Lord’s command; Acts 28:3-6

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