

**“Your Enemy: The Devil, Part 3”
2 Corinthians 2:11**

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“so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes” (2 Corinthians 2:11, NASB).

The word translated ‘outwit’ in the NIV and ‘advantage’ in the NASB comes from a word group that means ‘having more.’

“...for we are not ignorant of his schemes” (2 Corinthians 2:11, NASB).

‘Schemes’ is from the Greek word ‘Noāmata,’ and describes the content of what a person is thinking about.

1 John 4:4b (NASB) “...greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.”

What are Satan’s schemes? What are his strategies?

1. Satan schemes for us to rationalize: ‘I don’t have to forgive.’

“So if you forgive him, I forgive him. Don't think I'm carrying around a list of personal grudges. The fact is that I'm joining in with your forgiveness, as Christ is with us, guiding us. After all, we don't want to unwittingly give Satan an opening for yet more mischief - we're not oblivious to his sly ways!” (2 Corinthians 2:10-11, The Message).

Ephesians 4:32

Colossians 3:13

The devil loves it when we hold on to the hurt. An unforgiving heart has been duped by the devil.

“We don’t know your name, but we are connected by this tragedy. In the news we are just called ‘the family,’ ‘the 9 year old girl,’ ‘the instructor,’ but we do have names. Our names are Ashley, Elizabeth, Tyler and Christopher. We are Charlie Vacca’s kids. We wanted you to know something about him. Our dad wasn't just an instructor. He was funny, strong, a protector, a hero and our friend. He was a good man.

You're only 9 years old. We think about you. We are worried about you. We pray for you. And we wish you peace. Our dad would want the same thing.

Like you, we are living through this tragic event that we cannot shut off. It’s with us all the time. Our dad would want you to know that you should move forward with your life.

You should not let this define you. You should love yourself and love your family. Someday we want to meet you, hug you, and tell you that it's okay" (A letter by Charlie Vacca's 4 kids).

2. Satan schemes to neutralize our devotion to Jesus Christ through false teaching.

2 Corinthians 11:3

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

"I, the devil, will always see to it that there are bad people. Your job, my dear Wormwood, is to provide me with people who do not care"
(The Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis).