

Can the Devil/Satan influence some events in a Christian believer's life like in the Book of Job?

Satan tries to undo God's work (Mk 4:15). He may attack when one sins and opens a door for him to exploit. The apostle Paul said to give no place to the devil (Eph 4:27).

Rick Renner wrote:

...[T]his "place" may refer to a rough spot in our relationships, our finances, our thoughts, or our personal habits or to lingering areas of disobedience. Whatever it is, it's an identifiable location that the devil seeks to find and use as an open door into our lives.

If the door is closed, you're already in good condition. If it's locked because you are living a life of holiness and obedience, you are even in better condition. But if you are living loosely, you need to know that the door is not only unlocked — it is likely standing wide open, literally inviting the enemy to come in and wreak havoc in your life!¹

Some make shipwreck of their faith and bring shame to the name of Christ (1 Ti 1:19). Faith without works is dead (Jas 2:26). Unfortunately, some forsake what is right and throw the Christian life away (2 Pe 2:20).

Believers must resist the devil and he will flee (Jas 4:7).

The unregenerate have: confused thoughts (Eph 4:17), hardened hearts (4:18b), closed minds (4:18a), impure and greedy thoughts (4:19). They: lie (4:24), have uncontrolled anger (4:26–27), steal (4:28a), have corrupt longings (4:29a, 31) and grieve the Holy Spirit (4:30); whereas the regenerate: adopt a spiritual lifestyle (4:20–32) and have renewed thoughts and attitudes (4:20–23).²

The Bible teaches that none are good (Ro 3:10). All have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Ro 3:23).

Regarding Job 7:20–21³ J. Vernon McGee wrote:

We can see in Job a breaking down of his integrity. When a man's integrity is broken down, he becomes an easy mark for Satan. This is the thing that happens to many a man today who attempts to fight life alone. He begins to hit the bottle or he drops into sin. Satan has a chance to attack him because the man's integrity has broken down.⁴

Job recognized God's sovereignty. He confessed his sin and repented (Jb 42:1–6).

¹ Renner, Rick. "Neither Give Place to the Devil: Ephesians 4:27." *renner.org*, 13 July 2018, renner.org/article/no-open-doors.

² Willmington, H. L. (1999). *The Outline Bible* (Eph 4:19–23). Tyndale House Publishers.

³ I have sinned; what shall I do unto thee, O thou preserver of men? why hast thou set me as a mark against thee, so that I am a burden to myself?

And why dost thou not pardon my transgression, and take away mine iniquity? for now shall I sleep in the dust; and thou shalt seek me in the morning, but I shall not be [Job 7:20–21]. McGee, J. V. (1991). *Thru the Bible commentary: Poetry (Job)* (electronic ed., Vol. 16, p. 58). Thomas Nelson.

⁴ McGee, J. V. (1991). *Thru the Bible commentary: Poetry (Job)* (electronic ed., Vol. 16, p. 58). Thomas Nelson.