

He Has Power of Death

Heb_2:14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,

Robertson Word Pictures

- That he might **bring to naught** (hina katargēsēi). Purpose of the incarnation clearly stated with hina and the first aorist active subjunctive of katargeō, old word **to render idle or ineffective** (from kata, argos), causative verb (25 times in Paul), once in Luke (Luk_13:7), once in Hebrews (here). “By means of death” (his own death) **Christ broke the power (kratos) of the devil over death** (paradoxical as it seems), certainly in men’s fear of death and in some unexplained way Satan had sway over the realm of death (Zec_3:5.).
- Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—
- John 8:44 "You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.
- John 14:30 "I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me;
- John 16:11 and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.
- 1 John 3:12 not as Cain, who was of the evil one and slew his brother. And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous.

Vincent Word Studies

- **Rend. bring to nought.** See on cumbereth, Luk_13:7, and **make of none effect**,
- Not power over death, but sovereignty or **dominion of death**, a sovereignty of which death is the realm. Comp. Rom_5:21, “Sin reigned in death.”
- **ven before death the accuser exercises sway, and keeps God's people in bondage so long as they are oppressed with the fear of death as indicating the lack of full acceptance with God.** How strongly this argument would appeal to Hebrew readers of the Epistle is clear from rabbinical theology, which often speaks of the fear of death, and the accuser as a constant companion of man's life. **Jesus assumes the mortal flesh and blood which are**

subject to this bondage. He proves himself to be both exempt from the fear of death and victorious over the accuser. He never lost his sense of oneness with God, so that death was not to him a sign of separation from God's grace. It was a step in his appointed career; a means (διὰ τοῦ θανάτου) whereby he accomplished his vocation as Savior. His human brethren share his exemption from the bondage of the fear of death, and of the accusing power of Satan. "He that believeth on the Son hath eternal life." "Whether we live or die we are the Lord's."

Jamieson-Fausset-Brown

- **destroy** — literally, "render powerless"; deprive of all power to hurt His people. "That thou mightest still the enemy and avenger" (Psa_8:2). The same Greek verb is used in 2Ti_1:10, "abolished death." There is no more death for believers. Christ plants in them an undying seed, the germ of heavenly immortality, though believers have to pass through natural death.
- of death — implying that death itself is a power which, though originally foreign to human nature, now reigns over it (Rom_5:12; Rom_6:9). The power which death has Satan wields. The author of sin is the author of its consequences. Compare "power of the enemy" (Luk_10:19). Satan has acquired over man (by God's law, Gen_2:17; Rom_6:23) the power of death by man's sin, death being the executioner of sin, and man being Satan's "lawful captive." Jesus, by dying, has made the dying His own (Rom_14:9), and has taken the prey from the mighty. Death's power was manifest; he who wielded that power, lurking beneath it, is here expressed, namely, Satan.

Sermon Bible

- But the Christian writers look upon death, . . . , as the victory of a power opposed to God. As God is the God, not of the dead, but of the living, so He is the God of life, not of death. Every one who has died since Adam has yielded to a conqueror, and confessed his power.
- Christ died, not to remove the necessity of death, but to deprive it of its sting; to rob the grave of its victory. Death remains; the last enemy, whose defeat is not yet, but seen in the light of Christ's revelation, and encountered in His Spirit, its triumph is annulled. For the Christian's triumph over sin is the pledge and foretaste of his triumph over death.

Pulpit

- that through death he might destroy (καταργήσῃ, equivalent to "bring to nought," "render impotent as though not existing;" the word is frequent with St. Paul)

Albert Barnes

- That through death - By dying. It is implied here:
 - (1) That the work which he undertook of destroying him that had the power of death, was to be accomplished by “his own dying;” and,
 - (2) That in order to this, it was necessary that he should be a man. An angel does not die, and therefore he did not take on him the nature of angels; **and the Son of God in his divine nature could not die, and therefore he assumed a form in which he could die - that of a man.** In that nature the Son of God could taste of death; and thus he could destroy him that had the power of death.
- **He might destroy - That he might “subdue,”** or that he might overcome him, and “destroy” his dominion. The word “destroy” here is not used in the sense of “closing life,” or of “killing,” but in the sense of bringing into subjection, or crushing his power. This is the work which the Lord Jesus came to perform - to destroy the kingdom of Satan in the world, and to set up another kingdom in its place. This was understood by Satan to be his object:
- That had the power of death - I understand this as meaning that the devil was the cause of death in this world. **He was the means of its introduction, and of its long and melancholy reign. ...but that “death” was a part of his dominion; that he introduced it; that he seduced man from God, and led on the train of woes which result in death.** He also made it terrible. **Instead of being regarded as falling asleep, or being looked on without alarm, it becomes under him the means of terror and distress.**

Adam Clarke

- That by the merit of his own death, making atonement for sin, and procuring the almighty energy of the Holy Spirit, **he might counterwork καταργηση, or render useless and ineffectual,** all the operations of him who had the power, κρατος, or influence, to bring death into the world; so that death, which was intended by him who was a murderer from the beginning to be the final ruin of mankind, becomes the instrument of their exaltation and endless glory; and thus the death brought in by Satan is counterworked and rendered ineffectual by the death of Christ.

Brief Outline

- The Devil, no longer, can give you a reason to fear death.
- The Devil influenced the two members of mankind to sin in the Garden of Eden.
 - Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

- The Devil's influence caused sin, and sin brings death
 - Romans 3:23 begins "Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, ..."
- So Death has to do with the Devil.
 - We listen to the devil, and we will die.
 - We will die physically
 - AND will be separated from God eternally, a second death in its nature.
 - But the opposite is also true. I will show you in just a moment.
- Jesus took care of Death's sting and the Devil's threat.
 - How?
 - By his resurrection he shows it is not all the bad and evil that the Devil has deceived us into believing
 - The Son of God could not die in His heavenly form
 - He became human, and could die.
 - Jesus kept telling us that people were not dead, but were asleep.
 - Death was not to be feared.
 - But people don't listen very well
 - So no one was getting it.
 - He died on the cross, and was buried and 3 days later was resurrected.
 - He demonstrated death to not be the end.
 - We are not like Rover, just, dead all over.
 - We do not go out of existence.
 - His death, burial, and especially his resurrection shows the Devil to have no power over us.
- Now I can start listening to Jesus and avoid the eternal death.

KEY WORDS

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|-------------|----------------|
| ● Devil | ○ Termination |
| ○ Satan | ○ Afterlife |
| ○ Tempter | ○ Grave |
| ○ | ○ |
| ● Death | ● Resurrection |
| ○ Passing | |
| ○ Curtains | |
| ● Deceive | ○ Betray |
| ○ Dishonest | ○ Cheat |

- Dupe
- Falsify
- Fool
- Mislead
- Trick
- Con
- Fake
- Outwit
- Scam
- Screw
- Skin
-
- Birth
 - Beginning
 -
- Asleep
 - Unconscious
- Dormant
- Dozing
- Hibernating
- Napping
- Resting
- Sacked out
- Snoozing
- Snoring
-
- Fear
 - Dread
 - Fret
 - Shrink
 - Tremble
 - Afraid
 - Frightened

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

GBN

- Submission to God
 - https://gbntv.org/daily_lift/daily-lift-january-25-2022/
- The Devil's Playbook
 - <https://youtu.be/XxjTY6eh8yU>
- The Fear of Death
 - <https://youtu.be/RGoqJoOZrdc>

WVBS

- Do Not Fear
 - <https://video.wvbs.org/video/do-not-fear-crisis-and-the-creator/>

La Vista

- What Should I Tell My Son Who Has a Fear of Death
 - <https://www.lavistachurchofchrist.org/cms/what-should-i-tell-my-son-who-has-a-fear-of-death/>
- Overcoming Fear
 - <http://lavistachurchofchrist.org/LVarticles/OvercomingFears.htm>

Search

- What Dead Men Know
 - <https://youtu.be/fwqbBWfqHY0>
 - Transcript: Downloaded 3-21-22
- The Battle For Your Soul
 - <https://youtu.be/3dlnPS2i85A>
 - Transcript downloaded 3-21-22
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