

God's Inspired Verdict

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First, no matter how hard we may try, it is quite simply impossible to ignore the vast amount of material in both the Old Testament and New Testament that speaks of Satan, demons, and Christian men and women's incessant battle with the temptation and oppression they try to impose on us. The only justification for avoiding these many biblical texts is to argue that the word "Satan" does not point to a living, personal being striving to undermine the spiritual flourishing of Christians and to destroy the kingdom of Christ. No, the argument is that "Satan" is simply a symbol, or perhaps a poetic metaphor that refers to all manner of evil, both moral and natural. At most, it refers to what people in ancient times once believed, but we today are far too intellectually sophisticated and technologically savvy to embrace such outmoded and superstitious ideas. Both Satan and demons were a part of a worldview that has long since lost its usefulness and cogency. This is the twenty-first century, for heaven's sake.

As you read this book, you will quickly see that we cannot so easily dismiss the plethora of biblical assertions concerning the reality of Satan and his demonic hordes. If we determine that the Bible's worldview is no longer relevant, then we must equally apply such a verdict to Christ's incarnation, the miracles he performed, his death and bodily resurrection, together with the hope of salvation and his second coming to consummate history as we know it. The biblical worldview, put simply, is God's worldview. And notwithstanding the many industrial and scientific advances we've come to enjoy in our day, I have more confidence in God's inspired verdict on what is real and not real than I do in the opinions of the most educated and allegedly enlightened minds of this or any other century.

(Understanding Spiritual Warfare: A Comprehensive Guide by Sam Storms, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Reflective, Kindle, 2021, Page xvii of 357)