

# If I Were the Devil

## I. Introduction

- A. Over the years Paul Harvey has read an essay titled, "If I Were The Devil"
- B. Many songs have been made describing such an action

## II. The Reality Of The Devil

- A. What Christians Believe
  - 1. April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Barna Group Survey revealed:
    - a. 40% of Christians strongly agreed that Satan, "is not a living being but is a symbol of evil"
    - b. Additional 20% "agree somewhat"
- B. What The Bible Teaches (1 Pet. 5:8; Mt. 13:25; Eph. 6:11; Zec. 3:1; 1 Ths. 2:18)

## III. If I Were The Devil I Would...

- A. Diminish God's Existence
  - 1. Atheism
  - 2. Evolution
  - 3. Nov 2007 Reuters Poll - 43% Catholics, 30% Protestants believe in Darwin's Theory of Evolution (Gen. 1:1; Ps. 83:18; Jer. 10:6)
- B. One Religion Is As Good As Another (Jn. 14:5-6; 10:9; 11:25)
- C. One Church Is As Good As Another (Mt. 16:18; Acts 20:28; Col. 1:18)
- D. Preach a One Sided God
  - 1. All about love and compassion, never mention sin, worldliness, judgment and the wrath of God (1 Pet. 1:17; Col. 3:25; Acts 17:31; Rom. 1:18)
- E. Promote Confusion Concerning Salvation
  - 1. Sinners Prayer (Jn. 9:31)
    - a. OT principle – (Ps. 66:18-19, Pro. 15:29)
    - b. God doesn't fellowship with those who are evil
    - c. God did hear Cornelius, who was a sinner (Acts 10)
    - d. God did not save Cornelius through his prayer, he still had to obey the gospel and be baptized
  - 2. Downplay Baptism (Mk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21)
- F. Convince People They Had Plenty of Time (Eph. 5:16; Ps. 89:47; Job 7:6)