

# Uses Satan for our Benefit

“Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, but the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary.” (Matt. 14: 22) Although the disciples were following the Lord’s instructions of getting into the boat, they faced contrary wind. Divine protection does not mean the absence of difficulties. Sometimes, the Lord allows the contrary wind or the difficulty to remain for a while, knowing that this won’t destroy us or sink our ship. Sometimes, He allows Satan to be active and to do things that seem contrary to His will. Actually, The Lord uses this to protect, just as He protected the disciples. His intention was to deliver them from selfishness, to make them realize their need for each other, and to learn to work harmoniously together.

## **The Lord uses Satan for my well-being and protection in two ways:**

### **First: He uses Satan with my enemies to protect me.**

“He cast on them the fierceness of His anger, Wrath, indignation, and trouble, by sending angels of destruction *among them*” (Psalm 78: 49). The Lord uses the evil angels to harm the enemies of the people of God (Pharaoh and his army) just as He did when He sent the ten plagues on the Egyptians. The last one was smiting the first born; thus weakening the enemy.

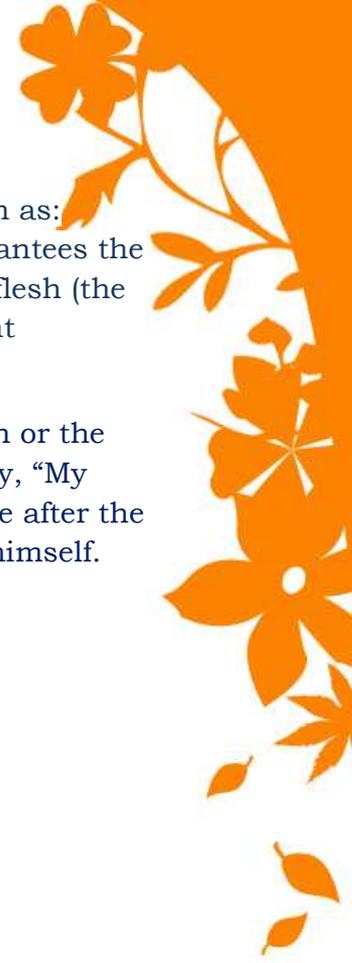
The concept of Satan as a servant of the Lord is also clear in 1Samuel; “But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the LORD troubled him” (1Sam. 16: 14). Thus, confirming that David was anointed by the Lord and portraying that Saul was a crazy man.

In 1Kings 22, the Lord uses the spirit of deceit to lure King Ahab into war to get killed; and thus save Elijah’s life.

### **Second: using the evil spirits to protect me**

“And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift *you* as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail;” (Luke 22: 31, 32). The Lord calls him Simon not Peter; to point at the carnal nature that was active at that time. Satan wanted to sift the disciples fiercely to destroy them, but the Lord permitted limited sifting to purify them of the hay. “When I said, ‘This far you may come, but no farther, and here your proud waves must stop!’” (Job 38: 11). Be sure that neither the fierce wind nor the sieve can destroy you; they are actually for your protection and cleansing. The Lord used the sieve to deliver Peter from pride and self confidence, that’s why he told him to strengthen his brothers when he is returned. It was clear in “rest *your hope fully upon the grace*” (1Pet. 1: 13) that Peter learned the lesson.

“For surely I will command, and will sift the house of Israel among all nations, As *grain* is sifted in a sieve; yet not the smallest grain shall fall to the ground.”



(Amos 9: 9). The goal of sifting is to separate the grain from the hay, such as: uncleanness, lying, pride, and showing off. The Lord's intercession guarantees the security of the believer. That's why the Lord allowed the thorn in Paul's flesh (the angel of Satan slapping him) to protect him from pride from the abundant revelations.

The believer's first reaction should be to ask the Lord to remove the thorn or the sieve, and to diminish the intensity of the difficulty. The Lord might reply, "My grace is sufficient". Your case might be like Jacob to whom the sun shone after the Lord has shaped him. He learned to depend on the Lord rather than on himself.

Thank Him for using Satan to protect you!

Thank him for being your intercessor; your faith shall not fail!

The storm shall not sink your ship nor shall the sieve destroy you!

