

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1211: Is the Devil in the Details of My Life?

<https://christianquestions.com/character/1211-ambition/>

See:



1. What was (and is) Satan's ambition? Why is this kind of ambition sinful? What destination did Satan want? What standard do we use to judge our ambitions? (Isaiah 14:12-14, Job 38:4,7)
2. How did Saul's desired destination differ from that of Stephen? Both were fearless, zealous for God and highly ambitious - what caused Stephen to turn his life to good while Saul did horrible acts in the name of God? Why did God use Saul later in his life? How did Saul (Paul) feel about his persecutions of Christians in his later life? (See Acts 6:8-13, 7:59-60, 8:1-3, 1 Corinthians 15:9)
3. What was Simon's position when using miracles? How did it color his view of the holy spirit and God's power? Why did he want the spiritual authority of the holy spirit? How did Peter address this unhealthy ambition? How did Martin Luther King, Jr. address it? What position did Jesus aspire to? How should this color our views of OUR aspirations? (See Acts 8:9-13, 18-22, John 8:28-29)
4. Did the rich young ruler desire a righteous destination? What conditions were given to him to inherit eternal life? Should we expect comfort and riches when we become followers of Jesus? Why? Should we apply our own conditions to our heavenly service? (See Mark 10:17-22)
5. What were the conditions of Philip's encounter with the Ethiopian eunuch? What can we learn from the attitudes of these two men? How did reading specific scriptures in Isaiah help the Ethiopian eunuch? (See Acts 8:27-39)
6. What authority did Satan desire? Why was this ambition sinful? How did King Nebuchadnezzar misuse his authority? How was he humbled and what was the result? Why should Nebuchadnezzar have known better? (See Daniel 4:26-37, Isaiah 14:14)
7. What was Jesus' position prior to his becoming a man? What was his attitude towards God and towards his taking up the lesser position of human? How should that move us? How was his destination, his position, his authority and the conditions under which he lived lessened even further as a man? What is his destination now? (See Proverbs 8:30-31, Isaiah 6:8, John 8:28-29, Philippians 2:5-11)
8. How can self-centeredness hinder our spiritual growth? What can we do to keep from falling into this trap? (See 1 Corinthians 13:8-11)
9. What are your ambitions? How do your desired destination, position, authority and the conditions of your life align with what is outlined in the Bible?