

# **THE DEVIL'S CAULDRON**

Gloria G. Lee

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Your best friend will appreciate a copy of this book.

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This book contains extremely sensitive information; our apologies and condolences to the reader if this information is regarding a relative, love one and or friend. Although this book contains in certain areas explicit descriptions of violence, extreme care was taken to allow the victims as much dignity as possible. As you read you will realize these descriptions were made to expand our understanding of violence and to prevent violence against women and children and violence in our communities.

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*Pain is a recording it begins to play at the first wound and it plays on and on whether anyone is listening or not. But once you introduce the word of God into your life the recording stops.*

*In order to find peace in your life, you must win the battle of the mind. You must win the battle of words, the battle against pain. You fight this battle with words. You fight bad thoughts by opening your mouth and declaring the thoughts not to be so. You retaliate with words. It is true, if you resist the Devil he shall flee!*

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## FROM THE PUBLISHER

"The greatest gift is a passion for reading. It is cheap, it consoles, it distracts, it excites, it gives you knowledge of the world and experience of a wide kind. It is a moral illumination."

Elizabeth Hardwick (1916 - ) Literary critic and Novelist

Since you are reading this page you are trying to make up your mind whether or not you want to purchase this book. The cover has attracted you, so you have decided to open the book and browse. As for the question do you want to purchase this book? My answer to you is "Yes!" It is a resounding "Yes!" Yes you want to purchase this book because reading this book will change your life. Reading is an activity like none other. The consequences of reading are extraordinary just as the consequences of not reading are extraordinary where you will live your life in darkness. You can sit before an orchestra where the music will thrill you to passion and for a while your spirit will soar. You can turn the radio on in your car and the music will carry you away but there is nothing like reading. Reading will not only transport you to another place and time reading will change the circumstances of your life forever. Reading will carry you to the future where you will see possibilities and reading will send you to visit the past where you will see potential.

Music provides a temporary high for your relief from your surroundings whereas reading can lead you to a permanent relief from everything around you. Reading can change your reality transforming you into a new person. You can read one paragraph and say "Why not?" or "of course!" You can read one book and say "I never thought of that" and read a second book and say "If only I had known this before?" You can see one word on the page and say to yourself "that can be me." "I have possibilities in my life." Once you begin reading in earnest you will realize that you can learn equally from reading about how a man failed in his life and as well as how a man succeeded in his life. In fact learning how a person failed is a good road map for success, because failure always provides you with an alternative point of view.

Think of the man who decided to construct the street light, or to design the fire hydrant, or to design the light bulb. Where did these ideas come from; what was the source of their inspiration? One source of these inventions was reading. Reading allows for the accumulation of information. When this information is assimilated in the human brain an idea is born. One invention sparks another invention that sparks another great idea until finally man is raised to an enhanced state of existence. Reading provides the recipe for originality.

A man says to himself there must be a better way. He goes to a library trying to find that better way. He reads and reads and reads assimilating information looking for that better way. If he does not find that better way in the books he has read, he has still learned something. He has learned that he has to invent the better way. This time he begins to read books looking for ideas to help him as he invents. In the book Father Hunt, by Rex Stout (1886-1975), who wrote over 70 detective novels, the character, Nero Wolfe, makes a brilliant point that I will never forget regarding how an idea is born. Rex Stout wrote Father Hunt in 1968. I read the book in 1976 and I still remember Nero Wolfe's preoccupation of how his sidekick, Archie Goodman, came up with the idea of a silver abacus being owned by Paul Revere. Archie Goodman told Nero Wolfe that he used the possible existence of a silver abacus owned by Paul Revere to gain an interview with a wealthy businessman. Paul Revere never owned a silver abacus but the possibilities of such an item triggered the imagination that allowed for the interview.

During the publication of this book I spoke to three men each man made a negative comment regarding reading. One man said that no one would read each individual name on the list in the book; the second man said no one would purchase the books people because were too busy worrying about money to read or to purchase a book. In hard times no one buys books. What American woman would be interested in what I had to say to purchase a book? The third man said some of the books were too large. No woman would take the time to read the books. He said the number of page in each book would immediately turn women off. No women or men would

purchase a book consisting of four hundred to five hundred pages. Needless to say I was disheartened for a second. Then I sat and thought about their comments. Their words were not complimentary to women or to people in general. According to them there is nothing to life during hard times but meat and potatoes. Grayness had descended on the earth. Life was so brutal that reading could be ignored. I decided to persevere. These men had to be wrong. I continue to believe that reading, regardless of the number of pages in a book, is seen as an activity that enriches the soul and enlightens the mind leading men and women to greater and greater heights and inventions. The fate of America will be decided by how well we nourish our minds and assimilate information to continue our growth. I shall continue to believe that people will see that reading leads to a better life.

When you read you can learn to eat healthy and to better manage your money and life. Reading allows you to quickly prepare for a dinner party or help you impress a friend. When you read you are open to adventure and confidence bathes your spirit. Reading is the commencement of light and the cessation of darkness. Reading is the activity that allows the soul to take flight. If you desire a change in the status and wealth of your life, then reading is an activity that you can ill afford not to do.

Do not share this book or give this book away for this is my seed to you and to the Lord. These books represent ten years of my life where I decided to serve the Lord and to work on His behalf. Your growth from my seed will carry my spirit into the next generation. This book should be read over and over again until the information is planted into your heart (spirit) and comes out of your mouth as a creative force signifying your connection with the Lord who created you.



# Introduction

Are you having an awful time at life? Are you unhappy with the way your life is going? Are you unhappy with the way you are living? Do you feel like you are the only person feeling this way? Are you constantly being pressured to make one decision after another with no end in sight? Do you wish that you could start all over again and meet new people? Do you want to make a difference in life and you do not know how? Do feel like no one is listening to you? Do you feel like no one understands you and what you are going through?

If you feel this way, then it is about time for you to change. That is correct, it is about time for you to change. It is about time for you to disengage yourself from the world system and try God. It is just that simple.

If you have finally decided to give up and are at your wits end then it is time that you try God. You have tried all of the world's systems to no avail so maybe it is time that you try God. You do not have to worry about failing because God will show you the way to prosperity, health, and wealth. You can be a success at life. He will improve your family relationships, move you to a better neighborhood, see that you go to college, and find you a successful mate.

Change does not have to be seen as something awful that one must endure. Change can be an enjoyable process especially if you are hopeful and have a vision of the person you will become. Do not be like those people who always think negatively or forecast gloom and doom at every turn. You can bring happiness and peace into your life by changing. You can bring peace and happiness in your life by changing your associates, changing where you do business, or changing your employer after receiving a better education. You can change your home life by renewing your commitment to your husband or wife. Change is possible in every

facet of your life. If you begin to be hopeful, you can look forward to a new day. Hope will enter your life through the word of God. So begin to study God's word and expect good things to come into your life even in the midst danger.

When you read God's word and you are lead to change, embrace this feeling and be confident that renewal is possible in your life.

# Dedication

What is a mother to do when she  
learns she has raised a murderer?

John 10:10

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill,  
and to destroy."

This book is being dedicated to the memory of Derrion Albert, a 16 year old honor student, lest he be forgotten in the upcoming months when society tries to determine the culpability and guilt of each of his assassins. Derrion Albert was murdered in Chicago, Illinois, on September 24, 2009, two days shy of the day that would commemorate the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation of September 22, 1862, freeing approximately 4 million Black slaves. The death of Derrion Albert demonstrates that Abraham Lincoln freed the bodies of Black men but he did not free their minds. The Black man has now become his own most serious health problem.

Derrion Albert was murdered while he was on his way to a bus stop after leaving school a place where he had learned to read. His death is being attributed to the actions of four to seven young men beating, kicking and stomping him for some alleged injury they suffered. Actually his death should be attributed to the dark thoughts culminating in the hearts and minds of his slayers. Regardless of the reason for Derrion Albert's murder the Devil has had his day. A life was lost and four young men will soon find their way into prison entering an arena they may or may not survive or they will find themselves on the way to the gallows the same sentence they meted to their victim, Derrion Albert.

Annette Holt, the mother of Blair Holt, a Chicago Public Schools student who was shot on a city bus in 2007, said "Someone said he (Derrion) was in the wrong place at the wrong time." "No, he wasn't. He was in the right place. He was coming from school."

The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing.  
~ Albert Einstein

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# Chapter One

Why are you so miserable?

".. though we walk in the flesh we do not war after the flesh: (for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds;) casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;" II Corinthians 10: 3-5

"The thief cometh not, but to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. " John 10:10

Are you having an awful time at life? Are you inundated with bills, living in a house that you hate in a neighborhood you abhor, surrounded by neighbors you dislike, driving a car you do not want? Do you cry at night and wish you were back in high school? Do you hate your job and want to go back to college for a better chance at life? Do you sit at home watching television wishing that you could go on a vacation? Do you see no way out? Have you finally decided to give up? If you are at wits ends, then it is about time for you to try God. You have tried all of the world's systems to no avail so maybe it is time that you to try God. You do not have to worry about failing because God will show you the way to prosperity, health, and wealth. God has told us He is our helper (Exodus 18:4 – Deut. 33:7). You can be a success at life. He will improve your family relationships, move you to a better neighborhood, see that you go to college, and find you a successful mate.

Trying God is not hard. In fact, following God is fairly simple because God describes everything you have to do to be successful in the Bible. The reason why you have failed and lived such a miserable life thus far is because you have been uninformed (my people perish for lack of knowledge) and or you have followed your emotions without considering the consequences. Once you allow the word to change your conduct, life will be better. Lack of knowledge is the root of despair, poverty, and conflict. Once you gain knowledge as to how God does things your life will improve. The most important thing you must realize is that you are a spirit. When God made man He made man in His own image. This means you possess the same qualities as God. This is why when you speak to God you are talking to Him from your spirit. When God approached the void that we now call earth, He spoke this world into existence. What we call earth God spoke into existence. Everything that God saw He spoke into existence and this is the first lesson you must learn. Whatever you desire you must speak it into existence. Light was brought into the world through God. The light left the world when Adam sinned. The light did not return to the world until Jesus was born. We do not know all of what God intended for Adam and Eve because His purpose was interrupted by the Devil's interference. But we do know from **Genesis 1:28** what one of God's purposes was. *"...and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'"* So from Genesis 1:28 we can deduce that God did have plans for us that did not include strife, anger, or hatred. We were supposed to live peacefully in the garden and procreate. We lost our way and we lost the light when Adam sinned and we did not regain the light until Jesus was sent to the earth and was resurrected. Jesus said "I am the light and the way". His light is supposed to guide our existence.

Adam was given dominion over everything that walked or crept upon the earth. This authority should have been transferred to us. Adam was the absolute authority upon the earth until he gave his authority away to the Devil by allowing fear to come into his life through disobedience. The first sin, the first deception, the first lie

and the first disobedience that ever occurred on earth took place in the Garden of Eden. Once Adam gave his authority away the Devil began to operate upon the earth. The Devil's merriment consists of fear, sickness, hatred, death, depression, murder, wickedness, envy, cruelty, stealing, cowardice, pride, disease, misunderstandings, assumptions, insomnia, loneliness, and self-pity. When left alone with the Devil man becomes a monster convincing one another any deed is justified (Attorney Fredric Tokar, Georgia, 1992 – Sheree Miller, Michigan 1999). You must remember the Devil did not want to return Adam's authority to us once Jesus was resurrected. He had no choice because Jesus had mastery over him. Even though Jesus won the battle of good and evil he did not destroy the Devil. The Devil was subdued but not destroyed. If the devil had been destroyed, we would not be experiencing the troubles we are having today. The Devil did not tuck his tail and run from the field of battle when Jesus defeated him. He regrouped and has engaged man in a war which he plans to win. The Devil knows that if he can keep man in a constant state of confusion and chaos man will never be able to gain dominion over his circumstances. War, famine and discord are the Devil's merriment.

The Devil is a master of deceit. He works through the grocer who sells rotten meat in the poor section of town. He inhabits the man who says he will take you away from your dreary life only to force you to sell your body in the next town (Nicole Young,16). He will also inhabit the mind of your best girlfriend who had an affair with your husband. He can inhabit your girlfriend and have her tell you that you need to get out more and meet more people. She says this only to talk behind your back about how bad a mother you are or plan an assassination with your husband. The Devil can disguise himself as the preacher who calls you to prayer only to abscond with all of the church funds. He can disguise himself as the dope man who says the white powder he sells will solve all your problems and make you feel good at the same time. Cocaine is the miracle drug for the masses. Remember men become monsters (Jacob Lee Travis, 1997, California) when left alone with the Devil. The Devil can disguise himself as the boss who believes you should pay him with sexual favors if you want to keep your job. He can disguise

himself as your girlfriend who suggests you dance topless at the local bar to earn extra money while she baby sits your children. He can disguise himself as the older woman who suggests you follow in her footsteps of providing sexual favors to every man you meet. He can disguise himself as the concerned mother-in-law whose snooping eventually destroys your marriage. The Devil can disguise himself as you, the person who never examines her lifestyle and who refuses to grow up and take responsibility for her life and the lives of her children.

As long as you allow the Devil to disguise himself in your life, you will never see the light. You will never see that your condition is based on what you do not know and your lack of effort in finding out the truth. You will never see that you are unhappy because you lack the knowledge and courage to change your life. You will never see that you do not know what you have to do to change your life; that you will follow every fad imaginable because others are doing it. You will never know that it is your lack of integrity and character that is enslaving you. You are jealous and envious of people and will not take instructions because you have not put enough effort into gaining a higher education. You are quite willing to stay ignorant and stuck in the mud than to admit what you do not know and seek help. The very women you have met in life that knew more than you and were willing to help you betrayed you because you did not have enough ego strength to accept correction or instruction. The Devil loves a rudderless boat swaying any way the wind blows. A man left alone with the Devil becomes a monster (Roosevelt Bernard Gipson, California 1992).

You will not accept correction even to the detriment of your children. Your child's teacher tried to correct you but you turned hateful. Your neighbor tried to correct you but you slept with her husband. The grocer tried to help you but you called the authorities on him. You grinned in their faces and swallowed your fury then you went and committed a dastardly deed to soothe your bruised ego. All because you refuse to change and admit you do not know. You rather let your son go to Hell rather than change. You rather let your son go to prison than get up off the couch and get a job at

McDonald's to help your son make his way in the world. You would rather sit at home and pretend there are no jobs than to admit McDonald's is the only job you are qualified to work. The genes of your forefathers must be crying out in agony at your lack of pride and determination. People have died to live with dignity and you besmirch their suffering every time you shove a donut in your mouth. Later, I shall tell you about three women who refused to change. Their lives have now been destroyed. Maybe then you will get off the couch and stop eating donuts and go to work at McDonald's.

The Devil has a myriad of weapons he uses against man but the four favorite devices that the Devil uses against man to destroy a man's life are the words, comparison, assumption, if and laughter. He allows man to participate in these actions to his own detriment. People have been killed, robbed, maimed, raped, and mutilated because of these words. Cain slew Abel because of a comparison. Cain compared his offering to God with the offering Abel made to God. He learned his offering was not the best he could have presented. Cain merely gave God the first of his fruit not the **best** of his fruit. After making this comparison, Cain became angry and murdered his brother. King Saul made the assumption that it was not necessary to wait for Samuel to arrive before he went into battle (1 Samuel 15:23-25). Because of this assumption he lost his crown. He was no longer God's favorite. God loved Saul but Saul's disobedience turned God's love to disdain.

Marriages have been destroyed and businesses have been ruined because of these four words. The Devil has established an entire universe around these words to such an extent that some men have died never reaching their full potential. These four words can keep a man's mind so occupied with nonsense that he cannot think clearly. He cannot see what is right before him. The more a person uses these words the more the person is prone to distress, mood swings, depression, anger, feuding, and turmoil. The person's life will be characterized by accusations, dissension, headaches, arguments with a spouse or a significant other, a poor work history, long periods of unemployment, poor school attendance, unfulfilled

dreams and a general dissatisfaction with life. As long as the Devil can keep man off balance where the man cannot think, the man will never reach his potential and reclaim his life and authority. Dissension is the Devil's cauldron. This cauldron is filled with anger, anxiety, depression, fears, insomnia, pain, trauma, substance abuse, pain, self-degradation, lack of self-worth, incompetence, narcissism, humiliation, self-criticism, egocentrism, ethnocentrism, self-denial, self-effacement, self-reproach, self-indulgence, bullying, murder, rape, aggression, self-doubt, loathing and low self-esteem. Every time you have a negative thought you drink from this cauldron. Every time you tell yourself my wife does not love me you drink from this cauldron. Every time you tell yourself my boss does not like me you drink from this cauldron. Every time you tell yourself I cannot pay my light bill you drink from this cauldron. You continue to drink and drink until you are finally filled with so much despair and fear that you become lost and separated from God. If you continue to drink from this cauldron, you soon will become drunk. You will have the same imaginations of a drunkard sometimes giddy and other times sad. You will not know which way is up nor will you know how to climb out of your rut of despair. Hopelessness will prevail. Pretty soon you will begin to reinforce your own negativity. You will not need the soothsayers any longer. You will begin broadcasting your own gloom and doom. Every time you tell yourself nothing can be done to help me you reinforce the trap that has been set for you by the Devil. Picture a man lying with his head on an anvil and there is a muscular man standing over him with a mallet in his hand. Every time the man tries to raise himself from the ground and the anvil the muscular man hits him over the head. Pretty soon the man on the ground begins to feel it is better to just lie there rather than to try and stand up.

Think, who benefits from your low self-esteem? Who benefits from your lack of confidence? Lack of confidence leads to alcoholism, drug abuse, adultery, prostitution, poor self care, and squalor. The beneficiaries of your emotional pain are the accessory businesses such as social work agencies and prisons. The liquor store owner benefits from your lack of confidence. The owner

supports his family off of the money you spend everyday for beer and wine for self-medication. The local dope dealers benefits from your lack of confidence. The money you steal from yourself and others makes it possible for him to drive the latest fashionable car. Your mistress benefits from your lack of confidence. She spends the money that should have been used to send your children to camp so your son or daughter could develop self-esteem. The local pimp benefits from your lack of confidence. He is supporting himself every time you lay on your back. The local slum owner benefits from your lack of self-confidence. He is able to afford a magnificent lifestyle while providing absolutely no services to you. Yes, you finally realize there is an economic component to the lack of self-esteem. Yes ignorance and poverty are bed fellows. Every time the Devil can get you to beat yourself up he is winning and everyone else who is feeding off of your misery is winning. Their children live in better homes, go to better schools, and have a better future than your children. You are sitting in a low-income housing project wondering what happened to your life.

The reason why all of these people continue to benefit from your lack of confidence is because you have not taken the time and asked yourself "Is there a better way?" You have never taken the time to examine your life and ask "Is there something that I do not know that I need to know to live a better life? Why are other people successful and I am not?" Have you asked yourself "Do I observe enough? Do I seek knowledge like other people do? Am I doing all that I can do to get myself out of this situation?" Have you read a book? Do you watch any television shows other than the soap operas? How often do you go to the library? How often do you go to the YWCA? If you have not done any of these things, how do you expect change to come into your life? Fate is not a genie. It does not appear from a bottle. You seize the moment and create your fate.

Someone says good morning, rather than exchange a decent greeting with the person, you say, "What is so good about it? I don't have a job. My car is not running. I don't have any money in the bank and they are going to foreclose on my home." With your own

words you have boxed yourself into a corner. You have just told yourself your situation is hopeless and there is nothing anyone can do about it. The end result of your tirade is you will eventually go and have another drink, or pick a fight with you neighbor, or holler at your children, or kick the dog. What you do not do is exercise your free will to try and change the situation because you have already told yourself that there is nothing you can do to change your life.

Actually you have helped seal your fate, because if there were someone around you that could have helped you your behavior would have run them away. Your neighbor may have known about a factory that was hiring. The postman may have known when the next postal examination was being given. The grocer may have needed someone to help him unload a truck for \$50.00 that you could have used to pay on your light bill. But rather than meet the day with a positive attitude your foreshadowed your future with doom. When you woke this morning, you could have said this is going to be a great day just as easy as you said this is going to be a horrible day. The Devil loves to watch you percolating away in the cauldron of negativity. You are one of his best disciples.

The Devil calls upon his disciples in the community and in your family to plant the seed of doubt in your mind and then he sits back and watches while your internal dialogue defeats you.

You: I am a Son of God.

World: No you are not you are a dope dealer.

You: I am the righteousness of God.

World: No you are not you are a pimp, an abuser of women.

You: I am a Son of God.

World: No you are not you are a prostitute with four children out of wedlock.

You: I was made in the image of God.

World: No you were not you are a crack pipe smoker.

You: I do not have to defile myself to live. .I have a God that will

meet my needs.

World: I am god. I hold all the cards. You will work and live where I say.

You: I have been made righteous and I cannot live beneath myself.

World: There is no God but money and tomorrow morning I want you up bright and early pulling your pants down on television, entertaining the world.

You: I will tithe and keep the Sabbath day holy.

World: Saturday and Sunday are no different than any other day. The only reason why you say the day is holy is because it is an excuse not to work. Tithing is just making the preacher rich.

You: I have been redeemed, Jesus died for me. Read Mark 16:16-18.

World: How can water cleanse your soul? Once a thief always a thief.

You: I am fearless, God did not give me the spirit of fear.

World: If you do not have money you do not have control over your circumstances so you should be afraid. Do as you are told.

You: I am short in stature but I am willing to work and I want a family.

World: No woman will want you unless you drive a Cadillac and wear a ring in your ear. You need money to buy love and obedience.

You: I work as a dishwasher. It is the only job I can find.

World: No woman will marry you. You have nothing to offer.

You: I was made in the image of God.

World: You are a Black man, all you do is desire and rape White women.

You: I have the wisdom on God on the inside of me.

World: You are poor White trash, who will never amount to anything. The best you can do with your life is cook a little Meth and sell it to your neighbors in the trailer park.

Men become monsters when left alone with the Devil (Michael Lynn Crosby, 1999, California).

This mental churning is designed to get you not to like yourself. It is designed to get you to give up and put your faith in nothing or put your faith in only what man can do for you. Faith is what you believe. The churning is designed to get you to accept your fate of being a nobody and for you to become inactive like all of the other people who live around you (people who never vote: people who leave their children behind after they have sinned). The world needs people that follow rather than think, people who never try, people who believe that failure is inevitable. Satan's objective is to get you to turn your life over to your emotions; to get you to ignore the consequences of your actions. To make you believe you have no future, that today will be like any other day. Errant thoughts parade across your mind. "There is no use going to look for a job, because no one will hire me. Why should I brush my teeth and comb my hair? Nothing is going to change. I might as well take another drink from this bottle, at least the day will pass pleasantly". Maybe we can play some cards.

In the above scenario a person may lash out to control other people to conceal his or her hurt or feelings of rejection. Satan knows that most human strife begins with rejection. He knows when you curse people or blame people for your situation you are out of the will of God for your life. You are being governed by your feelings. You are being governed by your emotions. Do not walk in anger walk in love. Hurt and rejection are trying to rob you of your destiny. If you get angry and push people away, you maybe destroying relationships that you will need to help you improve your future. **Proverbs 16: 32** *He that is slow to anger is better than the might he that ruleth his spirit (your soul) than he that taketh a city* (also see **Hebrews 4:15**). Take authority over your

emotions. You can do it. You can tell yourself "I choose not to be angry". You must recognize the difference between good and evil (**Philippians 3: 2**). You must be able to recognize when your emotions are leading you astray to make a decision that can have devastating consequences to your life such as having sex with your neighbor after you found out that your husband had committed adultery. Anger and hateful emotions will take you back to bondage. This is why it is important to renew your mind daily with the word of God. God is faithful and He will answer you. **Isaiah 59:19** *"When the enemy shall come in like a flood; the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him."*

This negative sermon in your head can go on and on for days unless you make a concerted effort to control your thoughts. The Devil is slick, he will work day and night trying to make you believe you are powerless. In Genesis Chapter One, God said let's make man. The world system says "You cannot be a man until I tell you are a man. I will tell you the characteristics of a man. If you do not fit these characteristics, you are not what you say you are." Yet God says you are a man. Somehow God made you but men assume the authority to give you definition making you acceptable to some men and unacceptable to others. You must be modified. Your nose needs to be fixed or your breasts need to be lifted. You are to be judged on a scale of one to a hundred with the world deciding what is good and what is bad. The world laughs and says you cannot be like God. You cannot live in this world and not sin. Every day you are bombarded by laughter. How can you rise from what you were born to be? How can you come from owning nothing to driving a new automobile and living on the best side of town? The world says the best you can hope for is to find a job, raise a couple of screaming kids, drink a few beers on the week-end then die.

The best drama written by the Devil is a man, anger, poverty and a gun, see the Homicide Primer and Not My Child. This drama gets played over and over again year after year all around the country. This drama has run longer than The Phantom of the Opera. The Devil keeps applying pressure by adding words such as maybe, might, could, should have, stupid, fools, and ignorant, into

man's thought pattern. The Devil might change the cast of characters in the drama but the resulting behavior is always the same, chaos. The Devil knows that most men do not know their inheritance and do not know what to do when they are attacked with self-doubt, self-loathing and self-hatred. He uses this lack of knowledge to destroy man. When King David found Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth, in Lodebar Jonathan's son did not appreciate his status. He was the grandson of the first anointed king of Israel and he was living beneath his circumstances. Not once did he try and claim his inheritance. He believed his maimed and crippled body (2 Samuel 9:8...."I am no better than a dead dog, sir, Why should you be so good to me?"). Mephibosheth was also a father, his son was named Mica. Mephibosheth's self-image affected his son's status in life.

The Devil knows that most men do not know that their minds are being attacked by the Devil when they are put in an unstable position. The Devil also knows most men are not going to exercise caution and self-control but follow the first impulse that comes into their mind. Normally the people who exercise discipline are the people who were taught discipline at a very early age. The Devil knows all he has to do to create chaos in your life is to keep applying the pressure because more than likely you are among the thousands of people who were never taught self-discipline or self-control and you are not likely to try and learn to control your emotions. The Devil knows some of you will see no value in controlling your anger or frustration. The Devil knows that your angry outbursts are the only way you know to communicate. Blaming other people or beating up on other people has become your favorite pastime because you know of no other way to express yourself. Cursing and humiliating people are your favorite modes of expression. These behaviors make you feel better. Through your behavior you are able to rise above the situation and feel disconnected. What is happening is happening to others, not you.

Life doesn't just happen. The misery you are experiencing did not just happen. You are a target. There is a war going on. The Devil wants your soul and he knows that if he can keep you from the

knowledge of God he can win. If he can keep you embroiled in controversy, you will not have the occasion to ask yourself "Is there a better way?" You will continue to fight with the meager weapons you have available and subsequently fail. You will lie on your deathbed wondering what happened to your life. The only thing that happened to your life is that you did not take time to find out what God had to offer you and what God wanted you to do with your life. The Devil's goal is to always keep you in a state of anxiety and fear surrounded by hopelessness. Maimed men do not stand up and walk. They need the word of God to help them walk (**Matthew 9:1-7**). It was not an accident that Jesus was sent to heal the poor, because it is the poor that the world tells what they can and cannot do. Poverty maims a man. Poverty means a state of deficiency. (**I John 3:8**...*Jesus came that he might destroy the works of the Devil*). It is the poor that are often rejected, abused, and used by the world. The poor needed Jesus' help for them to walk again. We all come into the world pure at heart but it is the world system that causes us to become bent, weighed down with burdens, fears and regrets. The poor are more susceptible to a message of deliverance than the rich. The poor know they need Jesus, the rich believe they can make a deal. God decided that all of mankind did not have to pay for the disobedience of Adam, therefore he sent Jesus to relieve burdens and to destroy yokes. The rich had everything. The poor man had nothing. The poor man is always looking for relief. This is why poor men are susceptible to the lies of false prophets. (**John 10: 9-10** *I am the gate. Those who come in by me will be saved.....I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness - Isaiah 61:4-6 - the good news of deliverance*). The poor man's only hope is God. Jesus was sent to the earth to save man from destruction. It was his sacrifice that saved us. Jesus is the foundation to your salvation, your recovery, to your healing, to your sanctification, your redemption, your safety, because: **Isaiah 53:4** "Surely he hath borne our griefs, carried our sorrows."

"For this purpose the Son of God was manifested that he might destroy the works of the Devil." **John 3:8**. The Devil loves to make men feel desperate. If you worry, you can't think to change

your circumstances, you just react to those things occurring around you but you never stop and think. Thinking is essential to living a long, healthy, and wealthy life. Now let's examine the Devil's arsenal and see how he uses certain words to our destruction.

## Comparisons

The word comparison is a verb and it means to examine for similarities or differences. The problem the word comparison presents to the human condition is all men are not created equal in their physical or mental attributes. When we examine one another for similarities or differences, most tend to look at or for the negative features, the features that take away from self-esteem. All men were created human, but all men were not created the same which implies inequality. There are some short men, some tall men, some fat men, some lean men, some men with a sense of humor, some men who do not have a sense of humor, there are handsome men, there are ugly men, there are weak men, there are strong men in fact there are men of every size, shape, and color, imaginable and these differences shall go on and on to infinity, yet these differences are used by man to divide, not to unite. Division is profitable.

When the word comparison is used, no one is interested in the similarities of the two objects only their differences and whether or not these differences can be used for controversy and control e.g. our credit system is designed to enslave men. Face book and Myspace is being used by employers to discriminate in giving people jobs. There are some men who are always looking for differences so they can use these differences to control the economy thus prevent others from living a good life. This is the Devil's cauldron. For some men the word comparison means: "He is taller than I am. He is smarter than I am. He has more money than I do. He has better parents that I have. He drives a bigger car than I do. He drives a more expensive car than I do. He lives in a bigger house than I do. He went to a better university than I did. He has a better

job than I do. His wife is prettier than my wife. He has more children than I do. He has fathered more boys than me. His truck is newer than my truck. He has a better retirement package than I do. He has a cabin up north. I do not have a vacation cabin. His father made more money than my father. His father was able to help him more than my father helped me. His mother was a better mother to him than my mother was to me. If I had as many opportunities as he did, I would be successful also.”

For the woman the word comparison means; “Her breasts are larger than my breasts.” There are millions of women in this world who cannot speak to another woman without comparing breast sizes. There is a multi-billion dollar industry based on breast sizes. “She is prettier than I am. Her children are smarter than my children are. Her husband bought her a house larger than my house. Her wedding ring is larger than my wedding ring. Her husband is better looking than my husband is. Her husband makes more money than my husband does. She has more leisure time than I do. She has a better job than I do. Her hair always looks better than my hair. Her fingernails always grow longer than my fingernails. Her eyes are bluer than my eyes. Her hair is naturally blonde but my hair color comes from a bottle. Her husband bought her a mink coat. My husband never buys me anything. Her husband took her on two vacations this year. We had to spend my husband's vacation money to pay on the bills. Her husband gives her more money to spend on herself than my husband gives me.” All points of comparisons for controversy rather than peace.

Once the comparisons are made and are firmly in place in the psyche, the turmoil begins. Over and over again the comparisons are made. Over and over again man agonizes over his differences from other men. Over and over again a man will try to compensate for these differences. If the differences are too indigestible, violence occurs. Man left alone with the Devil becomes a monster. Adultery occurs. Fornication occurs. Murder occurs (Luther Jenkins, Michigan 2004). Rape occurs (father, 39, convicted 2002, Louisiana). Sin begins (Brandy Ferguson, 16 Louisiana, 2003). Sin is progressive. It will always develop into something harmful

such as, adultery, rape, murder, lies, betrayals, etc., all behaviors that bring satisfaction to the Devil. The Devil can be forestalled, if men and women spend more time being involved in their own lives than being involved with the lives of others. The Devil is always telling man the grass is better on the other side of the street. To the man he says, "You will be a better man if you can take his wife to bed." To the woman he says, "You can now feel that your girlfriend is no better than you because you slept with her husband in her bed while she was at work." Every time she talks to you, you can now secretly smile to yourself that adultery and fornication has now made you equal. Rather than focusing on developing your own life you spend your day focusing on all of the comparisons you make. Your children suffer because of the comparisons you make. Your husband or your wife suffers because of the comparisons you make. Your job and home life suffer because of the comparisons you make each day. Your friendships suffer because of the comparisons you make. The Devil has you so trained that every day you wake up your behavior for that day is predicated on the comparisons you make. You can deny that jealousy and envy rule your day, but all one has to do is look at the decisions you make to see that you are ruled by these emotions. You are ruled by darkness. All of your steps are predicated on the comparisons you have made in life. The car you purchased that you could not afford. The home you purchased that you could not afford. The man you married that you did not love. The woman you married that you did not love. The job you hate every moment of the day. Misery predicated on jealousy and envy caused by the comparisons you have made. Now let us examine the word "assumption".

### **Assumptions and the Diseased Mind**

To assume is a verb it means to undertake or to take for granted.

Again we see that second meaning of the word causes problems for man. The problem comes from arriving at a conclusion without verification. Again we encounter man exercising a lazy way of thinking. When you accept something that has no evidence to back it up, it means you do not want to take the

time to examine your conclusions closely. It is easier to accept the first conclusion that comes to mind rather than look around for another explanation. Your wife was looking at the man across the room. Since your wife was looking at the man across the room she is flirting with him. Since everyone is always looking at you, your wife's behavior embarrasses you and she deserves to be punished for her behavior.

Assumptions create false universes. Assumptions force situations into reality that do not exist. Just because you think a thought does not mean that thought is actually real. Just because your wife was looking at the man across the room does not mean she was flirting with him, she may have been looking at him because he has a big nose and she was trying to keep herself from laughing. She may have been looking at him because he reminded her of an old classmate. Since there are so many options to why she was looking across the room it is illogical for you to assume she was flirting. Your assumption demonstrates that you are a faulty thinker and you should spend more time examining your behavior. Maybe it makes you feel good to accuse your wife of adultery. Maybe it makes you feel good (justified in your anger) to embarrass your wife at a dinner party.

Another example of faulty thinking; my boss is frowning. Frowning means a person is angry. So if my boss is frowning my boss is angry. Therefore, since he is looking at me my boss is angry with me. In this proposition the universe is all people who frown are angry. Which means anyone with a specific facial expression that looks like a frown is angry. This assumption is ridiculous but thousands of people make this assumption everyday. A person may be frowning because their stomach hurts or they are trying to remember whether or not they turned the iron off before they rushed to work.

We must question the realities that grow from the premises and assumptions we make.

Johnny is frowning. Linda asks Johnny “Why are you frowning?” Johnny says I am frowning because I did not understand your question. So clearly Johnny is not angry, Johnny is perplexed. So the statement “All people who frown are angry” is a false universe.

Your boss’s facial expression could be a reflection of his thoughts. Maybe he has to go to the dentist after work. Maybe he hates going to the dentist and he is trying to build himself up to make the trip. It is possible you just returned from lunch late or arrived at work late, finished a personal phone call, or participated in any number of actions that your boss observed and that is why you perceive the boss’s frown as anger. The worker is making the assumption the boss is frowning because “I have not been doing what I am suppose to do.”

This same scenarios can be true of the woman who thinks when her husband is looking at another woman he is thinking about leaving her. Could it not be that the wife connects the glances of her husband, with the dinner not being cooked, the children not being clean and the house being dirty? So the association she is making in her mind is my husband is looking at other women because I have not done my part (having sex last night) at home.

Neither the employee nor the wife examined their conclusion. Neither question whether their thoughts are assumptions. The wife and the employee are supplying the reason for the behavior (the frown).

Neither the employee nor the wife has sufficient information to arrive at the conclusion they made. Disaster normally results when one uses an assumption as a platform for a result. The employee launches a series of future behaviors based on the platform "my boss is angry with me." The wife launches a series of behaviors based on the platform "my husband is falling for another woman." Both the employee and the wife are using assumptions that are groundless. The assumptions have not been verified.

The only logical thought in these situations is “I do not know why my boss is frowning. I need to find out.” The frown may not have anything to do with you. My husband may or may not be looking at another woman. If he is looking at the woman, it may or may not have anything to do with the dirty dishes at home or the lack of sex.

Assumptions create the hot bed of anxiety and worry. A healthy mind will say “I need to find out why my boss is frowning”. The diseased mind will say, “Oh my boss does not like me.” And from this point on, a platform of behavior is built on the suppositions. “My boss does not like me because he was looking at me frowning. Oh I better look like I’m busy. I don’t think my boss likes me so I better look busy. I don’t want him to fire me.”

Be an offensive thinker. Defensive thinking weakens you. Develop a habit of thinking this way. Recognize that you do not know why your boss is frowning. Do not be afraid of what you do not know. The healthy mind says “I need to go and ask him is there something he would like for me to do”. Does he need some help? It looks like he has a problem maybe I can help him solve it. Taking an active role in determining the cause of the frown puts you in a better position of knowing. Now let us examine the word “if”.