



## [Matthew 16:21-23](#)

(21) From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. (22) Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. (23) But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

*King James Version*

These verses show how easily a disciple of Christ can become the means of communication from demons. Peter did the speaking, but Jesus spoke to [Satan](#), attributing the source of the disciple's action. His verbal outburst was against [God's will](#) that Jesus suffer and die. Without recognizing it, Peter permitted himself to be a willing conduit for Satan's will!

Several years ago, I clipped an abstract of a book, *Wrestling with Dark Angels*, which was advertised in a book catalog. The abstract reads:

They're those inner "voices of reason" that try to convince you that wrong is right, that evil is good. They're Satan's dark angels, and you fight them every day. Some of today's most respected theologians help you better understand these supernatural forces so you can combat them effectively—and win the war for your mind.

There is a time coming, represented by the [Feast of Tabernacles](#) and [Last Great Day](#), when these dark forces of reason will no longer be free to influence mankind as they can now. Those who are now facing them without understanding what is happening will have died, been resurrected, and will live again with the knowledge of why life was so difficult before. [God](#) will not make them face these dark angels' subtle but powerful influence again. It will have had its effect, which will still have to be overcome. However,

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Matthew 16:21-23 (<http://www.theberean.org>)  
the possibility of that influence being refreshed each day will not exist.

The solution for us today is to combat that influence by means of the continuous influence of God's [Holy Spirit](#) flowing from our [relationship with God](#) through Bible study, [prayer](#), meditation, occasional [fasting](#), and obedience. Being in the spiritual presence of God and His Son [Jesus Christ](#) is the antidote. It is our shield and the means to flee Babylon.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

**To learn more, see:**  
[Communication and Leaving Babylon \(Part One\)](#)

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