

Published based on [When God Calls Satan to Substitute Teach](#)

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1 Timothy 1:18 Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight, 19 holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith. 20 Among them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

Introduction—Share a story about a mean teacher (Don't use the name) and how people did not want to attend their class and then relate it to another class that you certainly don't want to have to attend.

There are times in a person's life where through sin, stubbornness, and pride they become enrolled in a class taught by the Devil. The above passage points this out. Following is an outline you can work on to develop into a neat teaching to equip people to skip this class if all possible.

According to the above passage, what enrolls you for the class taught by Satan?

- 1. Rejecting God's Word**
- 2. Denying the need to keep your conscience clear**
- 3. Losing sense of spiritual direction in your life resulting in shipwreck**
(shipwrecks occur from traveling in dangerous waters)
- 4. Attacking spiritual authorities** (The Apostle Paul handed these two guys over to Satan)
- 5. Speaking against what God is doing** (the meaning of blaspheme to "to speak and rail against")

According to the above passage, what is the goal of having to attend the class taught by Satan?

1. To be taught

This shows us God's heart toward sinners. He wants to see a change in their lives. Even if a person refused to be converted, it seems that God desires for them to learn to respect other people's relationship with Him.

2. To watch what you say

Words are so important and the Lord wants people to learn the impact of their words. Words are like seeds. It seems that Hymenaeus and Alexander became candidates for Satan's class because they could not control their tongue.

3. To respect God's appointed servants

Paul handed them over. This means he came to a place where he used his apostolic authority to grant permission to Satan to teach them a lesson. It is difficult to know just how this operates, but there are certainly occasions in the Scripture where we see this operative. For example:

- A. Satan asked Jesus about sifting Peter (This was used to make Peter more of the man he needed to be)
- B. Paul encouraged the church at Corinth to hand release an unrepentant member to the enemy and according to the next letter he wrote them, it had worked.

4. An extreme resort to bring about repentance

It seems that this practice is not the first step but one of the final steps that is to be used.

Other title ideas:

Lessons from the Devil
A Course taught by Satan

When Satan is Your Teacher
When Satan is Your Teacher and Hell is Your Classroom
Going to School with the Devil

You can also find this article published on [When God Calls Satan to Substitute Teach](#), and on the tag pages [1 Timothy](#), [apostolic authority](#), [blaspheme](#), [correction](#), [Paul](#), [repentance](#), [satan](#), [teaching](#).