

# What You Probably Never Knew About Satan's Defeat

At the start of my ministry, I had a fresh encounter at the cross, in which I saw the mission of Satan's attacks and accusations against me thwarted by its power. As I vividly detail in my book, *Silence Satan*, it was there where I witnessed all my guilt and each one of my regrets upon Jesus, who then cancelled them by the nails of His crucifixion.

To reveal what happened in this moment, God later led me to an eye-opening verse: "He blotted out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us and contrary to us, and He took it out of the way, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed authorities and powers, He made a show of them openly, triumphing over them by the cross" (Col. 2:14-15, MEV).

These verses are unfathomable and describe the cross as the climax of Christ's mission to destroy the works of the devil. But what Colossians details here is so much more than what meets the eye from a casual read. It indicates that Satan didn't merely suffer a partial defeat, but a complete and overwhelming defeat—one that was once and for all. And a breakdown of the verse provides some fascinating insight into just what happened.

## The Parade of Celebration

First, let's explore the event Paul described. It's what's known in military terms as a "triumphal procession." For example, when a country goes to war and wins, the soldiers often return home to a parade of celebration. To be sure, these parades don't happen if an enemy is still looming, but only when the war is won and the threat is over. And this is exactly what the Bible asserts that Jesus did on the cross and

continues to lead us into today. To the Corinthians, Paul wrote: “But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession” (2 Cor. 2:14, ESV).

### **Stripped of His Authority**

It was this parade of celebration where Jesus “made a show of them openly.” But what specifically happened at this event is the second intriguing insight. In Bible times, it’s said that when an enemy king was captured, the victor would cut off his thumbs and toes, strip him down and march him through the streets in the triumphal procession. The cutting off of his thumbs and toes kept the enemy from wielding a sword or standing in battle ever again. And the stripping down was an ultimate act of humiliation. Thus, when the public saw the defeated enemy, they had no reason to fear him anymore.

Do you see the spiritual implications in all of this? Paul’s words to the Colossians assure us that Christ’s victory at the cross was complete and forever. And in that moment, Satan was stripped of his authority over you and me. Certainly, this doesn’t mean the devil won’t try to mess with us from time to time. But his humiliation and defeat at the cross should assure us that we shouldn’t be afraid of him any longer. {eoa}

**Kyle Winkler** *equips people to live in victory. His mobile app, Shut Up, Devil!, is the No. 1 spiritual warfare app; and his recent book, Silence Satan, has helped thousands shut down the enemy’s attacks, threats, lies and accusations. Kyle holds a Master of Divinity in biblical studies from Regent University. Get daily encouragement from Kyle on Facebook and Twitter.*