

Sometime in the past – we don't know exactly when -- the devil first convened his long-term, strategic planning committee. In reality, it is an ongoing brainstorming session, lead by a highly ranked, representative of the devil ("leader") and five lesser, but creative, demons ("1-5"). These meetings are of immense importance, as the plans implemented impact the church greatly. The record below is not chronological, but a compilation and thematic, to give you an idea of the strategies they have considered and implemented -- to great effect. At the end of one meeting, however, the participants had a big surprise.

*Please note: The devil and his demons do not refer to God, Christ, and Christian doctrines with respect. For this reason, biblical terms are written in the lower case and assigned derogatory names, according to their worldview, for example:
The Master = the devil and the great satan = Jesus Christ*

BEELZEBUL'S BIG SURPRISE

Scene One: Introduction

Leader: The Master wants us to generate some new ideas about how to frustrate the great satan's agenda.

Demon 1: Yes, we know -- the imposter they call "christ"! (sneers).

Leader: As you know, in the past we initiated many worthwhile projects that had both short and long-term benefits. And, the Master was pleased. During the earliest days of that infernal cabal....

Demon 2 (interrupting): Cabal indeed -- a bunch of worthless losers they call the "church"!

Leader (annoyed): We sowed division and divided loyalties. We implanted lots of Mischief (you know, what they call "heresies") to distract and confuse them. Over the centuries we undermined their so-called "gospel" by endless "jesus plus – combinations": jesus and philosophies, as well as jesus other religions and many ideologies.

Demon 3: Oh! That was fun!

Leader: Do you remember all the games we played with "christ" and Marxism, capitalism, populism, and nationalism?

Demons: Oh yea! We remember!

Leader: We can justifiably congratulate ourselves, but not for long, for there is much more to accomplish.

Demons: We're ready!

Leader: And, I almost forgot. We initiated repression and persecution, and lots of elimination plans....

Demon 4: Ha! What they call "martyrdom"!

Leader: These were very productive, for sure, but if we're honest, sometimes repression actually promotes the growth of the infernal cabal!

Demons (moaning)

Leader: But now, the Master wants a nuclear option.

Demons: Cool!

Leader: We're looking for a way to stunt the growth of the enemy's sect once and for all! So, the floor is open. Let's brainstorm together. Give me something really promising to tell the Master. And, remember: He's not patient and doesn't tolerate failure!

Scene Two: Discussion

Demon 1: I know! Let's greatly increase our efforts to corrupt them from within with prosperity and pornography.

Leader: We're doing that already. Give me something new.

Demon 2: How about an alien invasion, just like in their movies? We've got lots of demons with nothing better to do.

Demon 4: I really like the idea of a zombie apocalypse!

Leader (sardonic grin)

Demon 3: No, really. They're on to something. Why don't we try an apocalypse of some kind and end this charade quickly. How about a plague, world war, or natural disaster? The few who survive, we can pick off one by one at our leisure.

Leader: Yes. Of course. All that is possible, but the Master wants to play the game as long as possible until He wins, just to make the great satan miserable.

Demon 1: OK. What if we increase everything we are doing now – division, corruption, destroying their leaders, undermining their “scriptures,” and promoting religious combinations in every form possible – *and* throw in some disasters for good measure? Maybe, just more of the same will produce the effect we desire.

Leader: The Master intends all that, just like the proverbial “frog” in the “kettle” dynamic. But, in His supreme wisdom, He determined we need something else, a new dimension, a new subversive paradigm. So, as I said, give me something new! Inspire me!

Scene Three – The New Paradigm and the Big Surprise

Leader: You, in the back! You’re new. Speak up! Do you have anything useful to contribute?

Demon 5: Um, well, yes sir. Maybe.

Leader: Enlighten us, then, before I throw you out of here!

Demon 5: Well, sir, I have listened carefully to all the excellent ideas of these esteemed participants. But, I propose a new paradigm, as you requested.

Leader: Hurry up!

Demon 5: As we all know, we’ve not been able to completely destroy satan’s cabal, as you said so well. I suggest, therefore, that we allow a small, christian sect to survive, but on *our* terms and on *our* timetable, rather than try again and again to eliminate them.

Leader: That is indeed a novel and radical departure from our strategic plan.

Demon 5: Yes, sir, but you requested a new paradigm and this is my suggestion.

Leader: Go on, then.

Demon 5: The great satan falsely claims that the entire world belongs to him (Demons: What a joke!) and that what he declares applies to every dimension of life. The great question of this war is: Who is the rightful Master of this planet? That is our true focus. We know the answer, but the wicked cabal is oblivious. Stupid humans!

Leader: I’m listening.

Demon 5: Thank you, sir. My plan consists of two parts. First, we’ll lead them to redefine spirituality. No longer should they believe that their “gospel” (what we call Heresy) applies to all of life. That must stop! They must come to believe that spirituality is private and emotional. It will be something they feel, but never anything they think.

Leader: I’m still listening.

Demon 5: We must borrow a little from consumerism and postmodernism to make this work. We can teach them that spirituality exists to promote self-development and self-fulfillment. Also, in this way, we accelerate the autonomy we initiated at the beginning of time....

Demon 3 (interrupting): Of course! What they call the “fall into sin,” but we call it the Great Advance!

Demon 5: We must also train them to think of their “salvation,” what we know as Damnation, concerns only themselves, so that their “gospel” has nothing to do with the world they live in.

Leader: Interesting.

Demon 5: Thank you, sir.

Leader: Stop pandering me!

Demon 5: Yes, of course, s...! Part two consists of injecting dualism in their thought and practice. We should introduce the concept of the sacred and secular dimensions. This is how it would operate. Since the new spirituality is individual and egoistic, the cabal will progressively neglect all exterior dimensions, like society and worldview, because these are secular. And, they’ll come to view Sunday as religious, but Monday through Saturday as secular.

Leader: Go on.

Demon 5: As a result, slowly, they’ll develop two modes of thinking and behaving: one set for spiritual times and actions, the other set for secular times and actions.

Leader: Now, I’m getting interested!

Demon 5: Thank you, s.... The other aspect of Part Two is the most important. Because of the sacred-secular divide, we’ll train them to think – *only* during Monday through Saturday -- in the secular realm.

Demon 1 (interrupting): Right! A few christians might make a positive impact in society, but *no one* will associate their spirituality and ideas. Good idea! Hey, what’s your name anyway?

Demon 5: And, even when they think at all about their sick ideology, they will focus on subjectivity and practicality. We can even train them to focus on “how” and “when” thinking, and *never* “why” or “what” thinking.

Demon 2: Of course! And, because of our initiative promoting relativism, non-believers might admire christians for applying good ethics in public, but they’ll conclude it’s just a personal choice. *No one* will think this good

behavior applies *to them*. Plus, no one will connect christian behavior with their erroneous worldview! I *like* this approach! Really, who *are* you?!

Demon 4: Some of them will even behave *just like us* during the week, but act like holy angels on Sunday!

Leader: Oh! Inspiring! Very good!

Demon 5: In other words, sir, we'll make them stupid and irrelevant! We'll let them have just enough religion to pacify them. And, when the End comes, we'll eliminate them easily.

Demons: Awesome!!

Demon 5: But, in the meantime, practically speaking, they'll cede the world to *us*! *We* will do the thinking! In fact, we'll make them *afraid* to think! We'll implement *our* agenda! We'll use *our* proxies and *our* strategic methods! And, all the while, the "kettle" will get hotter and the "frogs" will cook even faster.

Leader: Fantastic! I hope the rest of you idiots were listening carefully! As for you – what is your name? – come with me! We must talk with the Master -- now!

At that very moment, Demon 5 was transformed before them and Beelzebul, himself, appeared.