Date: 8/1/20

Title: Cabbage Worms!

Theme: Don’t be fooled when Satan appears as an angel of light.

Object: Pictures of white cabbage butterfly, eggs laid by the butterfly, and caterpillars that hatch and infest the broccoli in my garden. Broccoli leaf with a worm on it.

Text: 2 Corinthians 11:14 NKJV - 14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

Here the apostle Paul is warning Christians that Satan doesn’t usually appear as an evil scary demon.

Instead, he tries to appear as a good angel of light so he can catch people off guard.

How many have ever tried to catch a butterfly?

Butterflies are beautiful insects, and they seem to be harmless.

They don’t sting or bite and they’re usually pretty to look at, but pretty hard to catch.

Have you ever caught a butterfly?

Here’s a picture of a certain kind of butterfly that I always try to catch. [Show picture.]

I keep a net out by my garden, and if I see one of these butterflies come near my garden, I try to catch it in the net.

So far this year, I have only caught one, and when I caught it, I killed it, and I’m going to tell you why.

This particular butterfly is called the white cabbage butterfly.

It is white or pale yellow, and it has black spots on its wings. [Point out spots.]

Now I don’t have any cabbage in my garden, but I do have broccoli.

And if this butterfly can’t find cabbage, it likes broccoli just as much.

This butterfly lands on the broccoli leaves and lays eggs on the leaves.

Look at this picture. Can you see the little yellow eggs that the butterfly laid on this leaf?

And you know what hatches out of those eggs? Little worms with a giant appetite.

Look at this broccoli leaf. Can you see a little worm on it?

These little worms turn into caterpillars and eat holes in all of the leaves and get bigger and bigger.

And then they get into the broccoli head, the part that you eat, and they start eating that!

So when you harvest the broccoli head and bring it in the house to eat it, it’s all full of worms!

Here’s the only head of broccoli I got out of the garden this year.

I planted 12 broccoli plants and only three are left. The other 9 were totally infested with caterpillar worms. So I killed all the worms I could with my fingers and I stomped on the broccoli heads to kill the worms in them and I threw the whole mess on the mulch pile. What a disappointment!

Now you know why I killed the cabbage butterfly.

This reminds me of Satan and how he tempts us to sin and disobey God.

He tries to make sin look like the butterfly instead of the caterpillar.

He says, you don’t have to listen to God and obey what He says.

You can do whatever you feel like; you can spread your wings like a butterfly and go wherever you want to go. Follow me and you can be free to do what you want to do.

But you know what happens when we rebel against God?

We become like the caterpillar that ruins the broccoli, and we end up on the mulch pile instead of the dinner table.

What a disappointment to God!

So don’t be fooled when Satan tries to make sin look good.

If we follow Jesus, and love Him and trust Him and obey Him, when He comes back, He’ll take us to His Father’s house instead of the mulch pile.

How many want to follow Jesus all the way to the kingdom of God?





