

The Half-Truths of Satan in Scripture

The table below summarizes the true/false words of Satan where they are recorded in Scripture.

Passage	true words	lies/accusation/incitement	total words	% true
Genesis 3	18	21	39	46%
Job 1,2	56	61	117	48%
Matthew 4	31	37	68	46%
Luke 4	42	54	96	44%
Totals:	147	173	320	46%

Read the following tables from left to right to get the flow of the text. The passages are split into three columns: (1) context (anything that is not Satan's actual words), (2) "true" words from Satan, and (3) and lies, accusations, inciteful words, slander, and other falsehoods. Caveat: these statistics are for the NASB, not the original Greek and Hebrew.

Context	true words	lies / accusation / incitement
Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, (Genesis 3)		Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden' ? (14)
The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.' " The serpent said to the woman,		You surely will not die! (5)
	For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, (14)	and you will be like God, (6)
	knowing good and evil. (4)	
When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.		
Totals:	18	21

The words translated "knowing", "knows", and "knew" are the same Hebrew *yada'*, Strong's H3405, all three in the Qal form of the word, which means: to know, to perceive, to know by experience, to be acquainted with, to know how, to be skilful in, to have knowledge of, to be wise.

Context	true words	lies / accusation / incitement
The LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, (Job 1)	From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it. (11)	
The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? ... " Then Satan answered the LORD,		Does Job fear God for nothing? (6)
	Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. (34)	But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse You to Your face. (20)
Again there was a day ... The LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, (Job 2)	From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it. (11)	
The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? ... he still holds fast his integrity ..." Satan answered the LORD and said,		Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. However, put forth Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh; he will curse You to Your face. (35)
Totals:	56	61

Context	true words	lies / accusation / incitement
Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ... And the tempter came and said to Him, (Matthew 4)		If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread (13)
But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'" Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him,		If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; (10)
	for it is written, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU'; and 'ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.' (31)	
Jesus said to him, "On the other hand, it is written, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'" Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; and he said to Him,		All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me. (14)
Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'" Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him. (Matthew 4:1-11)		
Totals:	31	37

Context	true words	lies / accusation / incitement
Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He became hungry. And the devil said to Him, (Luke 4)		If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread. (13)
And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE.' " And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him,		I will give You all this domain and its glory; (10)
	for it has been handed over to me, (8)	
		and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all be Yours. (19)
Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY.' " And he led Him to Jerusalem and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him,		If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here (12)
	for it is written, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU TO GUARD YOU,' and, 'ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.' (34)	
And Jesus answered and said to him, "It is said, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.' " When the devil had finished every temptation, he left Him until an opportune time.		
Totals:	42	54

Note: the phrase "for it has been handed over to me" has been marked as "true" because Satan is referred to as the prince of this world. See John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11, and Eph 6:12 below.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. (Eph 6:12)