

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
Understand Your Enemy!
I Peter 5:8-9

Introduction

1. When you and I chose to follow Christ, we became combatants in a deadly war with the enemy of our souls: Satan.
 - Unfortunately many Christians seem to be unaware of his deadly designs.
 - Today we want to sound the alarm and prepare for this spiritual battle.

Four Questions to Help us Understand our Enemy:

1. Who is Satan? Ezek. 28:12-17
 - He is a created being who led a rebellion of angels against God.
 - He goes by a variety of names:
 - Satan - Adversary
 - Lucifer - morning star.
 - Prince of the Power of the Air
 - The god of this age.
 - Apollyon - destroyer
 - Devil - accuser.
2. What can Satan do?
 - He cannot:
 - Know everything.
 - Be everywhere.
 - Do whatever he wants.
 - Make us sin.
 - He can:
 - Present Himself as an angel of light. II Cor. 11:14
 - Be aided by his evil angels (demons).
 - Entice us to sin. Js. 1:13-15
3. **What are Satan's objectives?** Satan wants to:
 - Exalt himself above God. Is.14:13-14
 - Blind the lost and take them to Hell. II Cor. 4:3-4
 - **Ruin or neutralize the lives of God's people.** I Pet. 5:8
4. How can we be victors in our battles with Satan? Two Keys:
 - Remember Christ has defeated the devil. Heb. 2:14
 - The One who is greater than Satan lives within us. I Jn. 4:4

The Challenge:

Christian, you are in the battle of your life. Do not lose by default!

“In the conflict between Satan and the believer, God’s child can conquer everything by prayer. Is it any wonder that Satan does his utmost to snatch that weapon from the Christian, or to hinder him in the use of it?”

- Andrew Murray

I Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

Ezek. 28:12-17 - "Son of man, raise a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and say to him, Thus says the Lord GOD: "You were the signet of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. 13 You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, emerald, and carbuncle; and crafted in gold were your settings and your engravings. On the day that you were created they were prepared. 14 You were an anointed guardian cherub. I placed you; you were on the holy mountain of God; in the midst of the stones of fire you walked. 15 You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, till unrighteousness was found in you. 16 In the abundance of your trade you were filled with violence in your midst, and you sinned; so I cast you as a profane thing from the mountain of God, and I destroyed you, O guardian cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. 17 Your heart was proud because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I exposed you before kings, to feast their eyes on you.

II Cor. 11:14 - And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

Js. 1:13-15 - Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. 14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Is.14:13-14 - You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'

II Cor. 4:3-4 - And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. 4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

I Pet. 5:8 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Heb. 2:14 - Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,

I Jn. 4:4 - You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.