

Know Your Enemy: Satan

We all need to recognise that there is an enemy who hates us and wants nothing but to kill and destroy us. God made us in his very image and unlike Satan, we have been redeemed through the precious blood of Jesus and can now have a right relationship with our God through Jesus Christ, the beloved Son of God.

Even though Satan may study us intensely and know when to attack, we have something greater. The word says that we have been given power over all the works of Satan. So why is it that we still allow him to steal from us after knowing this fact? We need to truly believe this word and actively apply this word to our everyday life to be able to overcome this enemy of ours.

Let's study him a bit for a change. Let us not hide away in fear of him. He should have no power over a child of God. We need to know who we are in Christ. Remember that FEAR is a spirit – a demon spirit to be exact.

2 Tim 1:7 KJV – For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

So, we need not be afraid of him or be deceived by his works. We do not need to fall repeatedly for the same schemes that he pulls. There is nothing new or different with the patterns or method he uses. We need to recognise these patterns in each of our lives to be able to not repeatedly fall for the same traps over again. The word says that we are familiar with his schemes. We need to start paying attention and to take note of the things he uses to bring about distraction and chaos in our lives as believers in Christ.

2 Cor 2:11 – So that Satan will not outsmart us. For we are familiar with his evil schemes.

What do we know about this enemy of ours?

What does the word of God say about him?

Isa 14: 12-15 KJV – How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the

clouds; I will be like the Most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Eze 28:12-17 - Son of man, sing this funeral song for the king of Tyre. Give him this message from the Sovereign Lord: 'You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and exquisite in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God. Your clothing was adorned with every precious stone – red carnelian, pale-green peridot, white moonstone, blue-green beryl, onyx, green jasper, blue lapis lazuli, turquoise, and emerald – all beautifully crafted for you and set in the finest gold. They were given to you on the day you were created. I ordained and anointed you as the mighty angelic guardian. You had access to the holy mountain of God and walked among the stones of fire. You were blameless in all you did from the day you were created until the day evil was found in you. Your rich commerce led you to violence, and you sinned. So, I banished you in disgrace from the mountain of God. I expelled you, O mighty guardian, from your place among the stones of fire. Your heart was filled with pride because of all your beauty. Your wisdom was corrupted by your love of Splendor. So, I threw you to the ground and exposed you to the curious gaze of kings. You defiled your sanctuaries with many sins and your dishonest trade. So, I brought fire out from within you, and it consumed you. I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching. All who knew you are appalled at your fate. You have come to a terrible end, and you will exist no more.

Here we learn a lot about him and his story from the time he was created. We see that Lucifer fell. He was stripped of his glory and Father God declares his fate. It has already been decided. There is no redemption for him.

Isa 10:7 – But the king of Assyria will not understand that he is my tool; his mind does not work that way. His plan is simply to destroy, to cut down nation after nation.

Isa 10: 12-14 – After the Lord has used the king of Assyria to accomplish his purposes on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, he will turn against the king of Assyria and punish him – for he is proud and arrogant. He boasts, by my own powerful arm I have done this. With my own shrewd wisdom, I planned it. I have broken the defenses of nations and carried off their treasures. I have knocked down their kings like a bull. I have robbed their nests of riches and gathered up kingdoms as a farmer gathers eggs. No one can even flap a wing against me or utter a peep of protest.

Isa 10: 16 – Therefore, the Lord, the Lord of Heavens Armies, will send a plague among Assyria’s proud troops and a flaming fire will consume its glory.

Satan is a tool used by God. He is not in control of God. He is no match for God Almighty. He is not all powerful. It is not his story we are living. He is just the thief who comes to kill, steal, and destroy. We need not be afraid of him. Stand up and fight, child of God. Satan is a defeated foe!!!

A few facts to remember:

1. He is the Deceiver

Rev 12:9 – This great dragon – the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world – was thrown down to the earth with all his angels.

We are told that he is the one deceiving the whole world.

2. He is the Father of Lies

Joh 8:44 – For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hatred the truth because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.

3. He has been stripped off the glory he once had.

Refer to Gen 3:14 and Luk 10:18

The glory he once had in heaven was stripped from him when God threw him out of the third heaven (where God dwells, the highest mountain).

He was once a guardian angel whose place was right next to God and now, he no longer has that title. He was one of the high rank of Angels - maybe even the highest of rankings before pride entered him.

4. Satan is not omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent

Satan or Lucifer is a created being. Refer to Eze 28:13

In Job 1:6 God asks Satan where you have come from, and he replied that he was patrolling the earth.

Patrol means: to keep watch over an area by regularly walking or travelling around it.

This clearly shows us that Satan is not present everywhere like God.

Satan must send his workers (Demons) to work on his behalf as he cannot be everywhere at one time.

NB: A Private conversation between you and God is private and Satan does not know what it is all about if no actual words are used. So sometimes we need to speak to our Heavenly Father directly from our hearts. Satan is therefore also not all knowing.

And He is most definitely not all powerful since who can compare with God. **(Ps 113:5)**

5. Satan does not have creative power

Angels were not made in the image of God like man. They were made to do his work. They were not created to have dominion over the earth. God gave this authority to man, who was made in the same image as God. **(Ps 103: 21,22)**

God gave man the authority to have dominion over all the works of his hand on earth. Satan therefore had to deceive Eve to steal that authority from Adam and Eve. Satan knew the value and worth of what God had given to man and he wanted it for himself.

6. He is a Thief

Joh 10:10 – The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

Right from the beginning, he disguises himself as a serpent to lie and steal the authority which God gave to Adam.

Gen 1:27,28 KJV – So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Most importantly from the very beginning the Father who is all knowing, gave us his word. In Gen 1:26 it is recorded even before he created man, that his intension was to give man not only dominion of the earth but also dominion over the enemy. Lucifer would disguise himself as a serpent and in Gen 3:14,15 the Lord declares his punishment.

7. We are given authority over Satan

This is a fact that we so often forget. Jesus has given us power of attorney to use his name. There is power in the name of Jesus and when we use the name of Jesus, demons must flee.

In Luke 10:19 (Behold, I give unto you power to trend on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you)

Jesus said he has given us power over all the works of the enemy, not some, but ALL the works of the enemy. We need to start using this authority on earth as well as in the spiritual realm where Satan works from. The battle is in the spiritual realm, and we are to fight from the spiritual realm where the fight begins.