

LION – Part 7
Fighting the Foe #1

L.I.O.N.

L – Living

I – Intentionally

O – on Earth

N – Now

1 Peter 5:8

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

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Who is the enemy?

Jesus referred to Satan/Devil As:

“The enemy” (Mt 13:39)

Matthew 13:39

and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.

“The evil one” (Mt 13:38)

Matthew 13:38

The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one,

“The prince of this world” (Jn 12:31; 14:30)

John 12:31

Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

John 14:30

I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me,

“A Liar” and “Father of lies” (Jn 8:44)

John 8:44

You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

“A murder” (Jn 8:44)

John 8:44

You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

“Is there really a devil? The language of Jesus certainly indicates his own belief in the existence of a personal devil.” Halley’s

Other passages:

“The tempter” (Mt 4:3)

Matthew 4:3

And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”

“The prince of demons” (Mt 12:24)

Matthew 12:24

But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, “It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons.”

“the god of this world” (2 Cor 4:4)

2 Corinthians 4:4

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.

“the prince of the power of the air” (Eph 2:2)

Ephesians 2:2

in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

“the deceiver of the whole world” (Rev 12:9)

Revelation 12:9

And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

He is called:

The Devil (Diabalos) – adversary, accuser, the enemy

Beelzebub - ‘lord of the house’ referring to the devil.

Satan (satan/satanas) – adversary

“Hence he is the opponent, the one who opposes the cause and people of God.” Erickson

Where did he come from?

Ezekiel 28:12-15

Ezekiel 28:12-14

Ezekiel 28:12-14

“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.

“Satan was the wisest creature ever created. Keep in mind Satan is a created being. He was created perfect in beauty. If you think of Satan as a creature with horns, a forked tail, and cloven feet, you are wrong. You have been reading the literature of the middle ages...The word of God does not present Satan in that manner. The Bible presents him perfect in beauty. If you could see him, you would find that he is the most beautiful creature you have ever seen.” J. Vernon

Ezekiel 28:15

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You were blameless in your ways
from the day you were created,
till unrighteousness was found in you.

Rev 12:9

Revelation 12:9

And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Where did he come from?

Isa 14:12-15

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“How you are fallen from heaven,
O Day Star, son of Dawn!
How you are cut down to the ground,
you who laid the nations low!

13 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.’
15 But you are brought down to Sheol,
to the far reaches of the pit.

5 “I will’s” of Satan – Charles Ryrie Basic Theology

1. I will ascend to heaven:

As guardian of God’s holiness Satan had access to heaven, but this expresses his desire to occupy and settle in heaven on an equal standing with God.

2. I will raise my throne above the stars of heaven:

He wished to be raised above all other created angels, and have the authority and the control of heaven.

3. I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north:

This speaks of Satan’s ambition to govern the universe.

4. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds:

He wanted the glory that belonged to God.

5. I will make myself like the Most High:

Here his counterfeit is crystal clear. Satan wanted to be like, not unlike, God. Satan wanted to be as powerful as God. He wanted to exercise the authority and control in this world that rightfully belongs only to God. His sin was a direct challenge to the power and authority of God.

Genesis 2:15-17

Genesis 2:15-17

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

“It may be helpful to speculate that man in his sinless nature once probably had as great, if not greater, desire for communion with the Creator as he has for the satisfaction of the natural and very real appetites and instincts we live with today.” Gordon Macdonald

Genesis 3:1

Genesis 3:1a

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

Gen 3:1 b

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”

Gen 3:2-3

Genesis 3:2-3

And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”

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Gen 3:4-5

Genesis 3:4-5

But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

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“The serpent raises doubts about the integrity of God. He implies that the only reason for the prohibition was that God was protecting the divine domain. If the man and woman were to eat, they would enter into that domain. The temptation is to overstep divinely established boundaries” Net Notes

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Gen 3:6

Genesis 3:6

So 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 to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

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3:7

Genesis 3:7

Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

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His Motivation:

To incite and bring about rebellion

His Methods:

Lies/manipulation

His Mannerisms:

Smart, cunning, attractive in appearance

Powerful, seductive, at times like a serpent, at other times like a lion, and still yet at other times like a dragon.

His Mission:

To get us to doubt:

God’s goodness

God’s provision

God’s word

And the consequences

—
“Satan is both cunning and cruel. He attacks when least expected and desires to destroy completely those whom he attacks.” NIBC

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