

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

The Christian's Holy War

The Enemy of God & His Followers: Satan

Ephesians 6:10-18 ¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

The adversaries in the spiritual battles are God & His forces and Satan & his forces. This study will analyze the verses in this passage concerning Satan ^{v.11-12}; present a Biblical description of where he came from; summarize the Scriptural account of Satan's organization, history & impact on mankind; and list the many names of Satan.

Verse 11: All God's Armor is needed to Stand in the face of Satan's deceptive attacks.

Christians must wear the "full armor of God" to defeat the devil's "deceitful schemes" ^{Ephesians 4:14}.

Verse 12: Life's struggles are primarily spiritual, and are fought in the spiritual realm.

The Christians can only fight successfully against "flesh and blood", after preparing spiritually.

Verse 12: Who are the rulers, authorities, powers and spiritual forces in the battle?

These titles represent the structure of Satan's underlings that parallels the organization of God's angelic host ^{Ephesians 1:18-21, 3:10-11, 1 Peter 3:21b-22}. Here, the "rulers" are demonic leaders who guide the affairs of Satan's realm, the "authorities" are the demon generals who execute his program, the "powers" are demonic officers/sergeants who make sure the plan is properly implemented and the "spiritual forces" are the demon troops who take Satan's marching orders to the field of battle.

Who is Satan and where did he come from? He was one of the highest ranking angels, but he became prideful and was thrown down to earth. In his egotistical arrogance, Satan thought he could become equal in power and importance to God the Father.

Ezekiel 28:12b-17 You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper, sapphire, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared. You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; made a spectacle of you before kings.

Isaiah 14:12-15 How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! You said in your heart, "I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High." But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit.

Biblical references describing Satan's organization, history and impact on the world:

The Devil imitates God's perfect ways, for example, in his religion: Satan is a god ²[Corinthians 4:4](#), and pretends to be an angel of light ²[Corinthians 11:14](#) and a lion ¹[Peter 5:8](#). He also has his own disciples ^{John 8:44, Acts 13:9-10, Revelation 12:4,9}, kingdom ^{Matthew 12:26}, city ^{Revelation 18:2}, gospel ^{Galatians 1:6-9}, doctrine ²[Timothy 4:3-4](#) and even his own communion ¹[Corinthians 10:18-21](#).

The Devil attacks Christ's churches, families and individuals: He seeks and has the power to deceive, discourage, and destroy ^{John 8:44, 13:21-27, Acts 5:3-5a, 1 Peter 5:8, Revelation 12:3,13-17} (subject to God's permissive will ^{Job 1:6-12, 2:1-7}). Throughout time, he has tried to thwart God's plans: for example, Adam & Eve ^{Genesis 3}, Cain & Abel ^{Genesis 4}, Joseph & brothers ^{Genesis 37}, David & Bathsheba ²[Samuel 11](#), Jesus ^{Matthew 2:16}, Peter ^{John 18:15-18,25-27}, Ananias & Sapphira ^{Acts 5:1-11}, etc.

Satan's main temptation techniques are lust of the eye, lust of the flesh and pride of life ^{Genesis 3:1-6}.

In addition, a favorite strategy of Satan is the misquoting of Scripture ^{Genesis 3:1-5, Matthew 4:1-11}.

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The Devil is powerful ^{Acts 10:37-38, 26:17-18, [Hebrews 2:14](#)}, the earth is his turf ^{[1 John 5:19](#)} and he has a connection in everyone's sinful nature ^{[Galatians 5:19-21](#), [Ephesians 4:26-27](#)}. However, Satan is no match for God ^{[Matthew 25:41](#), [James 4:7](#), [1 John 4:4](#), [Revelation 20:2](#)} and is a defeated foe ^{[Revelation 12:7-9](#), [20:10](#)}.

The Many Biblical Names of Satan

1. Accuser	Opposes believers before God	Revelation 12:10
2. Adversary/enemy	Against God	1 Peter 5:8
3. Beelzebub	Lord of the flies	Luke 11:15
4. Belial	Worthless	2 Corinthians 6:15
5. Devil	Slanderer	Matthew 4:1
6. Dragon	Destructive	Revelation 12:3
7. Enemy	Opponent	Matthew 13:24-25
8. Evil one	Inherently evil	John 17:15
9. God of this age	Influences thinking of the world	2 Corinthians 4:4
10. Father of lies	Perverts the truth	John 8:44
11. Murderer	Leads people to eternal death	John 8:44
12. Prince of demons	Leader of fallen angels	Mark 3:22
13. Prince of this world	Rules in world systems	John 12:31
14. Roaring lion	One who destroys	1 Peter 5:8
15. Ruler of the kingdom of the air	Control of unbelievers	Ephesians 2:2
16. Satan	Adversary	1 Timothy 5:15
17. Ancient serpent	Deceiver in the garden	Revelation 12:9, 20:2
18. Tempter	Solicits people to sin	1 Thessalonians 3:5

Genesis 3:1-6 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Matthew 12:26 "If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand?"

John 8:44 "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

Please forward questions/concerns about these notes to ron price, pricegang@integrity.com, 505-294-4743.

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Acts 5:3-5a Then Peter said, “Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God.” When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died.

Acts 13:9-10 Then Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked straight at Elymas and said, “You are a child of the devil and an enemy of everything that is right! You are full of all kinds of deceit and trickery. Will you never stop perverting the right ways of the Lord?”

1 Corinthians 10:18-21 Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar? Do I mean then that a sacrifice offered to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord’s table and the table of demons.

2 Corinthians 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Galatians 1:6-9 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel – which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!

Ephesians 1:18-21 I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

Ephesians 4:26-27 “In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.

2 Timothy 4:3-4 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

Hebrews 2:14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil –

1 John 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.

1 John 5:19 We know we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

Revelation 20:10 And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

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