



Power Over the Enemy

1 Peter 5:8-9



Satan

- Satan is a real, personal being created by God.
- Satan was a powerful angel who fell victim to pride and rebelled against God, and, as a result, was cast out of heaven.
- Fallen angels are what we know as demons, and Satan is their ruler.
- Satan has always been under God's control, and he always will be.
- Satan has no independent power or authority.

Satan's Control

- God has chosen to allow our conflict with Satan to continue in this world until Jesus returns.
- Satan stands behind and directs all the corrupt and evil systems of this world.
- What Satan is doing in the world now and what God is allowing him to do, will not last because Satan is a defeated foe.
- When Christ returns, all of Satan's works will be destroyed.

Engaging Satan

- Do not attempt to engage Satan or demons directly.
- No human being can stand up to Satan.
- What Satan desires to destroy most of all is the church.
- It is through the church, the body of Christ, that God is setting free Satan's captives with the message of the Gospel.
- Satan cannot successfully destroy the church unless we allow him to sow discord and conflict.

Sin

- Sin provides Satan with an opportunity to draw you away from God and steal your joy.
- When you harbor sin in your heart and do not repent of it, over time that sin becomes dear to you.
- When we hold on to sin, we are giving Satan an invitation to steal our joy and kill our love for God.
- Satan uses sin to separate us from God and from one another.

Prevailing Over Satan

- Fear and anxiety are reliable ways for Satan to induce people to put aside their faith.
- People will do almost anything out of fear.
- We must give our anxiety, fears, and worries to God in prayer.
- God will strengthen us and our spirit so we can endure whatever comes.
- When we respond to Satan's attacks with faith, love, and prayer, we will prevail.

Conclusion

- We should practice thinking about people and situations, not in human terms, but in terms of a spiritual battle.
- Our weapons are truth, faith, prayer, love, humility and obedience to Christ.
- Satan's "strongholds" are destroyed, not by our power but by the power of God.