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The Enemy We Fight

There are two forces and only two in the world; the Kingdom of God and those under His rule, and the kingdom of Satan and all those under his realm. There is no neutral position. Everyone unsaved is now under Satan's rule, and prior to our salvation so were we.

Who and what is Satan?

- Ezekiel 28:13-18 - What does it tell you about the background of Satan?
- Isaiah 14:12-16 - What did Satan attempt to do?
- Revelations 12:3, 4 - How many rebelled?

His nature

- He wants to be like God - Isaiah 14:14
- He possesses a will - 2 Timothy 2:26
- He possesses desire - Luke 22:31
- He possesses pride - 1 Timothy 3:6
- He can only do what God allows him to do and is therefore limited - Job 1:12

What do Satan's names indicate about him?

- Prince of the Power of the Air - Ephesians 2:2
- God of this Age - 2 Corinthians 4:4
- King of Death - Hebrews 2:14
- Lucifer - Isaiah 14:12
- Deceiver - Revelations 20:10
- The Wicked One - Matthew 13:38
- The Tempter - 1 Thessalonians 3:5
- Accuser of the Brethren - Revelations 12:10
- Angel of Light - 2 Corinthians 11:14-15
- A Liar & a Murderer - John 8:44
- Enemy - Matthew 13:39
- A Roaring Lion - 1 Peter 5:8

His work among the unsaved

Satan and his fellow fallen angels carry out evil plans.

1 Timothy 4:1 - *The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.*

Revelations 16:14 - *They are spirits of demons performing miraculous signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty.*

We are also taught that he has his ministers (2 Corinthians 11:15) and he performs false miracles (2 Thessalonians 2:9). Satan and the demons blind the spiritual sight of the unsaved, deceive by false prophets and false miracles, attack people, murder and cause murder and seek to keep the unsaved from Christ.

His work upon believers (spiritual warfare)

- What is our present battle & weapons? - Ephesians 6:11-18
- What are Satan and his army trying to do to you? - 1 Thessalonians 2:18

He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

~ 1 Timothy 3:7

Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

~ 2 Timothy 2:25, 26

The overall plan of Satan is to stop you from becoming more like Christ and giving Him honour.

What is Our Hope?

Satan is now a defeated enemy, defeated by Christ on the cross. Though he is now active and opposing the believer his doom is set and future is determined.

Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life!

~ 1 Corinthians 6:2, 3

