

OVERCOMING SATAN, THE DEVIL

A Sermon Outline

Presented to

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Memphis School of Preaching

Memphis, Tennessee

As a Requirement in

Preacher And His Work

Course # 126

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12/17/2021

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Text: 1 Peter 5:8-9

Thesis: Every Christian is at war with the devil; therefore, we must know the enemy, his schemes and how to overcome him.

INTRODUCTION

1. What will you do if you are to face and overcome an enemy you cannot see physically or touch? We Live in a world which is controlled by forces we cannot see!

a. We get scared every moment we hear of The Devil, Demons, Evil Spirit, Witches and Wizards, etc.

b. We are mostly Tempted to find out who is behind our troubles, who is the cause of our problems.

2. In Africa, and some parts of the world, they blame the old folks in their families for bewitching them, and most of the times these blames are fueled by so called “Men of God,” Prophets, Miracle Workers, spiritual men and Witch Doctors.

3. Some weeks ago, a **90-year-old** grandmother, was lynched (stoned) to death at Kafaba, a town in northern, Ghana. What was her sin? She was accused of being a witch. Was it the first time? **No**, and it possibly going to happen again.

4. There are several human means people are using to overcome Satan. We, as Christians, can overcome Satan the enemy. Yes, we can defeat him.

From 1 Peter 5:8-9:

“8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”

In this lesson, I will share with you 3 main things.

I. KNOWING THE ENEMY, SATAN

II. KNOWING HIS SCHEMES AND STRATEGIES

III. KNOWING HOW TO OVERCOME HIM

DISCUSSION

I. KNOWING THE ENEMY, SATAN

A. Knowing the Origin of Satan, The Devil

1. From the beginning to the end of the Bible, the Godhead; Father, Son (Jesus) and the Holy Spirit are mentioned, and Satan is none of them.
 - a. The Bible gives us 4 beings:
 - i. Divine/Eternal Beings, (Gen 1:1-2, 26)
 - ii. Angels (created beings), (Heb 1:7,)
 - iii. Human (also created), (Gen 1:27)
 - iv. Animals. (Gen. 1:20-25)
2. Satan can only be an angel.
 - a. If he is not a Divine being nor human nor animal, he can only be an angelic being. (Matt 25:41)
 - b. Remember the contention between Michael (archangel), and Satan? Michael spoke to him like a peer! (Jude 1:9)
3. It is worth mentioning that Satan, as the principal leader of the rebellious Angels, has agents who work with him.
 - a. Demons, Witches and Wizards, Sorcerers, Witch doctors, false prophets, chanters, etc.
 - b. Remember we are discussing; The Devil, the Boss, Satan himself!

B. Knowing the Nature of Satan

1. He is not Divine nor Eternal
 - a. He was not from the beginning but created being. (Heb 1:7, Psalm 104:4)
 - b. He has not been from the beginning; He will not live forever.
 - c. He doesn't exist by Himself
2. He is not Omnipotent – (Job 1:6)
 - a. Yes, Satan maybe powerful, and perhaps a million times powerful than man (human)
 - b. But He is not All powerful, He doesn't possess all powers and not the source of All powers.
 - c. He has a boss who is far above him and incomparable to Him
 - d. He came before the presence of God Almighty. (Job 1:6)
 - i. Notice “who came to report Himself/to Him?
 - ii. Someone holds the power of the earth
 - iii. And may I inform you that it's not Satan
3. He is not Omnipresent – (Job 1:7)
 - a. Peter said your adversary the devil walks about. (1 Pet 5:8)
 - b. This means he is not at everywhere at the same time. Only God is! (Ps. 139:7-12)

- c. He travels to and fro.
- d. His influence may be everywhere but not he as a being

4. **Satan is Not Omniscient**

- a. The word omniscient means to have infinite awareness, understanding and insight.
 - b. Satan is not all knowing. He does not possess universal or complete knowledge.
 - c. Satan cannot read minds. He cannot know what your thoughts are.
 - i. Reading of mind is an attribute of our God alone.
 - ii. God alone can read minds- (Psalm 139:2, 23.)
 - iii. Jesus can read minds (Luke 5:22,6:8)
5. Satan said Job would curse God, but he didn't (Job 1:9-12)
- a. He, instead, blessed the Lord: (Job 1:20-22.)

II. KNOWING HIS SCHEMES AND STRATEGIES

A. Satan Deceives with Lies

1. He is a liar and father of it. – (John 8:44)
 - a. All liars are going to lake of fire (Rev. 21:8)
2. He can transform himself to deceives. (Gen. 3:1-4, 2Cor 11:13-15)
 - a. we are not ignorant of his schemes. – (2 Cor 2:11.)
 - b. The devil's first appearance from the beginning of time was to lie and to deceive.
 - c. Satan successfully deceived Eve with a lie. That is where the fall of man began. – (Gen 3:6-7)
 - i. with all the powers Satan has, the most excellent and best thing he could do to Eve was to lie to her.
 - ii. He couldn't remote control her
 - iii. He couldn't force her to eat the fruit, she did on her own.
 - iv. He only transforms himself to an animal to lie and to deceive!
3. Brethren, you may have lynched (stoned) people in your mind.
 - a. You may have lynched your wife or husband emotionally,
 - b. You may have lynched your in-laws or parents or family members or co-workers because perhaps agent of Satan "man of God" has lied and deceived you. (Matt. 24:24)
 - c. Satan is still in the deception business, beware!

B. Satan Is an Adversary of Man. (1 Pet. 5:8)

1. Surprisingly, Satan lies to deceive us to disobey and rebel against God,
 - a. Then he goes to God to accuse man. (Job 1:8-12)

- i. From our main text, Peter was clear, your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking to make us fall.
- ii. Peter is telling us being, that angelic being called the devil has a surveillance on you. Peter says he walks about, spying on you!
- iii. Satan by himself cannot do anything to a man under God's protection that he Satan as a roaring lion may devour us.
- iv. So, his purpose of being an adversary is to destroy our reputation or relation with God!

C. Satan Sets Snares to Trap. (Psalm 141:9-10)

- 1. Satan sets traps all around and entice people to lure them into his traps!
 - a. He tempts us with our own desires. (James 1:12-15)
 - b. Satan tempts us to fall into his traps. (Matt 6:13)
 - c. He is not at every place, but his traps are scared all around so beware!
- 2. Satan traps us with the three things which are in the word. (I John 2:15-17)
 - a. Lust of the eyes.
 - b. Lust of the flesh.
 - c. Pride of life
 - d. Same was what he used to tempt our Lord. (Matt 4:3-11)
- 3. We can recover from his snares through repentance. (2Tim 2:26)

D. Satan Threatens

- 1. He threatens to put fear in anyone who is ignorant of his schemes.
 - a. Fear has made some prisoners. (Heb 2:15)
 - b. Fear diminishes faith.
 - c. Fear is a weapon. It scatters your mind and makes you lose control of yourself, your marriage, your business etc.
- 2. Threats of different kinds are thrown at us.
 - a. Threat of failure and defeat
 - b. Threat of death
 - c. Threat of unforgiven sins.
- 3. We must not fear that which in the world.
 - a. Fear is not from God, for He has not given us the spirit of fear. (2 Tim 1:7, Psalm 23:4)
 - b. We must not fear He who is able to destroy both the soul and the body. (Matt. 10:28)

III. KNOWING HOW TO OVERCOME HIM

A. By being Sober and Vigilant. (1 Pet 5:8)

1. The word sober means: to be calm in mind, to be temperate, to be circumspect (Eph 5:17)
2. Vigilant means to lookout, to be cautious, to be attentive, to be watchful.
 - a. Because We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but Satan and his agents. (Eph 6:10-13)
 - b. Because We are Strangers and Pilgrims Here on this Earth.
 - c. Because We are Soldiers in a Battlefield behind the enemy line trapped in a Spiritual War. (2 Tim. 2:3-4)

B. By Resisting Satan. (1 Pet 5:9)

1. The Greek word for resist is “anthistemi” which means to withstand, to oppose!
2. Satan cannot read our minds, he only comes around, starts a conversation to buy time so that he can lie and deceive us.
 - a. Consider his visit to Eve in the Garden; He went there to lie. (Gen. 3:6-7)
 - b. Jesus said “Away with Me” Jesus Resisted Him! Jesus Ended the conversation. (Matt 4:10-11)
3. Drawing near to God. (James 4:7-10).
 - a. Run to God
 - b. Humble yourself
 - c. Take Up Serious personal relationship with God.
 - i. Keep Your Personal Scriptures Studies to know the will of God!
 - ii. Your meditation on the word and the awesomeness of God! (Ps. 1:1-3)
 - iii. Keep nearer to God by hiding His word in your heart. (Ps. 119:9-12)
 - iv. Praying with all prayers and supplication to God. (Eph 6:18)
 - v. Participate in the work of God and His Church. (Example: personal evangelism, visitation, etc.)

C. By Trusting God and being Obedient to His word!

1. Put your trust in God and Lean not on your own understanding. (Prov. 3:5-6)
 - a. If you go your own way; you will get trapped. Let God direct your path
2. God Himself will crush Satan for you. (Rom. 16:19-20)
 - a. Obey God and you will be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil.
 - b. You cannot defeat Satan on you own. It is mission impossible!
 - c. God had made hedges around Job because he was obedient to Him (Job 1:12, 2:4-7)
 - d. Trust in God will deliver your soul. (Psalm 33:18-22)

D. By Putting On the Whole Armor of God (Eph. 6:10-18)

1. Be strong in the Lord and in the Power of His might. (Eph. 6:10)
 - a. Be strong and of good courage. (Joshua 1:7)
 - b. Our war is not against flesh. (2 Cor. 10:3-4)
 - c. But against principalities and spiritual host! (Eph 6:12)
2. We are soldiers at war (2 Tim.2:3-4)
 - a. Endure hardness
 - b. Entangled not yourself in the affairs of this life.
3. Stand against him by putting on the whole armor of God
 - a. Belt of Truth (Eph.6:14, John 17:17)
 - b. Breastplate of righteousness (Eph.6:14, Prov. 4:23, 2 Cor. 5:21)
 - c. Shoes of the Gospel (Eph. 6:15 1 John 2:6, John 10:27, Eph 5:15-17)
 - d. Shield of Faith (Eph.6:16, 2 Tim. 3:12, 2 Tim. 4:17)
 - e. Helmet of salvation (Eph 6:17, 1 John 5:11-13)
 - f. Sword of the Spirit (Eph 6: 17, Heb. 4:12, Psalm 119:105)
 - g. Prayer (Eph 6:18, 1 Tim 2:1-3)

CONCLUSION

Because of ignorance, many people have fallen prey to the devil, but we are not ignorant of him, perhaps before this lesson, we did know much about;

1. The origin and nature of Satan, that
 - i. Satan can only be an angel. He is not Eternal/Divine, he was created.
 - ii. He is not Omnipresent, Omnipotent nor Omniscient.
2. The schemes and strategies of Satan include but not limited to:
 - i. Satan Deceives with Lies
 - ii. Satan Is an Adversary of Man.
 - iii. Satan Sets Snares to Trap.
 - iv. Satan Threatens
3. How to overcome Him, that, We need to be
 - i. By being Sober and Vigilant. (1 Pet 5:8)
 - ii. Trust God and be Obedient to His word!
 - iii. By Resisting Satan. (1 Pet 5:9)
 - iv. Put On the Whole Armor of God (Eph. 6:10-18)

Invitation:

Satan has imprisoned multitude of people in the world. And if you are not on the side of obedient to God, then you may be rebelling and disobeying God and that is where Satan belongs. Why not...

- **Believe** the gospel today. (John 8:24)
Jesus dies for the sins of the world so that you can be said.
- **Repent** and Turn toward the Lord (Acts 2:38, 3:19, Acts 26:16-18)
- **Confess** The Lord Jesus. (Acts 8:37)

- **Be Baptized.** (Mark 16:16)

To wash away your sins that you can call on the name of the Lord and be saved. (Acts 22:16)

Are you ready to defeat and overcome Satan the devil?