

Source night

The Devil and his defeat

Introduction Need to have a correct view of the Devil.

Key Verse 1 Peter 5 v 8-9

“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them.”

— C. S. Lewis, *Screwtape Letters*

The Devil in scripture has many names.

Abaddon (“destroyer” Hebrew) (Rev. 9:11)	Deceiver (Rev. 12:9)
The god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4)	Prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2)
Accuser (Rev. 12:10)	Devil (Luke 4:13)
Adversary (1 Pet. 5:8)	Ruler of this world (John 12:31)
Lawless One (2 Thess. 2:18)	Satan (Acts 26:18)
Apollyon (“destroyer” Greek) (Rev. 9:11)	Evil One (Matt. 13:28, 39)
Liar (John 8:44)	Serpent (Rev. 12:9)
Beelzebub (Prince of demons Matt. 12:24)	Father of lies (John 8:44)
Morning Star (Isa. 14:12)	Tempter (1 Thess. 3:5)
Belial (‘worthless’ 2 Cor. 6:15)	

The origin and nature of the Devil

Ezekiel 28 v 1-19, Isaiah 14 v 11-23, 2 Peter 2 v4 (*Tartarus* — Greek), Luke 10 v18

Key points 1. Angelic being created by God, but not as he is now. Colossians 1 16-17

Devil everlasting but not eternal, we are not dualists

2. He fell. We might like more information e.g. why evil, but God has given us all we need to know.
2. Not equal to God in any way
3. Does have power, but limited
4. Motivation, pride and self glory Ez 28 v 2 He loves attention, high profile
5. No promise of redemption for fallen angels and the Devil, only man
6. Fallen angels also known as demons/evil spirits/ powers of darkness? Ephesians 6 v12

Origin and nature of demons

They were part of God’s original creation Colossians 1 v16

Jesus spoke of the Devil and his angels Matthew 12 v24, 25 v41

A third of angels followed Satan Revelation 12 v4

The World, the Flesh and the Devil

The World 1 John 5 v19, Flesh Galatians 5 v19-21 We do not have three enemies, he works through the World system 1 John 2 v13-15 and exploits our fleshly nature Romans 7 v18

Knowing how the Devil operates. 2 Corinthians 2 v11

1. Blinds minds of unbelievers. 2 Corinthians 4 v4
2. Temptation through our thought process, using our weak areas e.g. pride, sex, love of money/things, fears
2 Corinthians 11 v 3 The first temptation of man and of Jesus was unbelief, to doubt God's word.
3. Getting at us when we're tired, weak and at a low point e.g. Jesus tempted in wilderness.
4. Getting us to believe lies John 8 v 44 Garden of Eden He loves false teaching/prophecy I John 4 v1-4
5. Obstacles in our way I Thessalonians 2 v18
6. The Devil does misuse scripture Matthew 4 He hates God's Word and will try and pluck it from our heart
Mark 4 v1-9 and v15
7. The Devil hates an active Church, and tries to split churches, create discontent, especially against the leadership Numbers 16 v1-7 Acts 6 v 1
8. The Devil can do 'signs and wonders' 2 Thessalonians 2 v9 Exodus 7 v11
Is there a counterfeit version of the gifts of spirit?
9. The Devil can cause illness and disease Acts 10 v 38 But not all illness comes *directly* from him
10. He can masquerade as light 2 Corinthians 11 v13-15 Matthew 7 v15 Acts 20 v30
11. Above all — To rob God of his rightful place in our lives, to fool us into thinking we can manage without him, we are equal with God.

Possession and oppression

Possession refers to when a demon/s can control a person and what they do, from inside a person.

e.g. Luke 8 v30 Mark 1 v23

Oppression refers to when the Devil exercises control/influence from outside a person

e.g. 2 Timothy 2 v26 uses word captive Acts 10 v38

Typically when an area of weakness gives a 'foothold' to the enemy, so .e.g. Act 5 v3 Ananias

How we should face the spiritual battle.

Our job to resist— James 4 v7

Vital things to remember -Matthew 28 v 18-20 Romans 8 v 38-39 I John 4 v4 Revelation 12 v11

Prayer is a weapon we have, and use too little! Ephesians 6 v 18 Follow the example of Jesus Luke 22 v 31-32

Wartime prayer should be part of our attack on Satan's strongholds!

The Devils final defeat

Jesus won a victory I John 3 v8 Colossians 2 v15

He knows his future! Revelation 12 12 Matthew 8 v29

Revelation 20 v10 Hell was created for him Matthew 25 v41



Having studying this topic how should we be? Worried? Confident?

Do we focus too much or too little on our enemy?

Are there things we need to avoid? If so, what?

