

## MESSAGE NOTES for "What's the devil's deal?"

Ephesians 6:10-20

April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### **Introduction** – *"Yours in the Struggle"*

The Big Idea – We must FIGHT and not FEAR

Two Big Mistakes

1. Who are Satan and demons?
2. Where did they come from?
3. Where are they going?
4. What are his schemes and tactics?
5. How do we engage in the battle with Satan?
  - a. Know that this is NOT your war, NOT your armor, NOT your power! God is the owner and the Gospel is the Power!
  - b. Use your defensive armor
  - c. Use your offensive armor

**Gospel Application** – *Will you fight?*

### **SCRIPTURE PASSAGES USED:**

#### **1 Peter 4:12-13**

<sup>12</sup>Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

#### **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.

#### **1 Peter 5:8-9**

<sup>8</sup>Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

#### **Luke 10:18**

He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

### **Isaiah 14:12-15**

<sup>12</sup>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! <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.” <sup>15</sup>But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit.

### **2 Peter 2:4**

<sup>4</sup>For if God did not spare angels when they sinned . . .

### **Jude 6**

<sup>6</sup>And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home. . .

### **Matthew 8:28-29**

<sup>28</sup>When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. <sup>29</sup>“What do you want with us, Son of God?” they shouted. “Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?”

### **Revelation 20:7-10**

<sup>7</sup>When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison <sup>8</sup>and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. <sup>9</sup>They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God’s people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. <sup>10</sup>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.

### **2 Corinthians 4:4**

<sup>4</sup>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.

### **Matthew 16:18**

<sup>18</sup>And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

### **1 Timothy 4:1**

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

### **2 Corinthians 2:10, 11**

<sup>10</sup>If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, <sup>11</sup>in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

### **1 Thessalonians 2:17-18**

<sup>17</sup>But, brothers, when we were torn away from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you. <sup>18</sup>For we wanted to come to you—certainly I, Paul, did, again and again—but Satan stopped us.

## **2 Corinthians 11:3**

<sup>3</sup>But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

## **Ephesians 6:10-20**

<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup>and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

## **FOR FURTHER STUDY: How to Have Victory Over Satan**

*"In the desperate conflict Christ waged, in which he lost his life, was he mistaken? Was it really 'the prince of the this world' he had to face – a terrible supernatural being whose hate for God was as dark and as deep as hell? Or was he deluded? That he believed in a personal devil whose dominion he came to shatter; that he commanded demons to come out of their victims; that he was convinced that if he were to save man he must show up the Prince of Darkness in his true light, and break his power over human hearts; that he really believed these things, no student of the scriptures would for a moment pretend to deny."*

-- F.J. Heugel, *That Old Serpent, the Devil*, page 14.

### **I. His Objectives: Satan's prime directive**

A. From these verses, what do you conclude are Satan's objectives?

Isaiah 14:13-14

Ezra 28:17

1 Peter 5:8

Matthew 16:23

2 Corinthians 11:3

1 Corinthians 10:9-10

B. Can you discern between the original and alternative objectives?

C. Why do you think Satan has resorted to an alternative objective?

D. What is Satan's alternative objective? (Revelations 12:17)

### **II. His Personnel: The persons Satan uses**

A. From these verses, who do you conclude are Satan's personnel?

Matthew 12:22

Matthew 25:41

Revelations 12:7

Matthew 16:23

Genesis 3:6

1 Timothy 4:1-2

B. In this tactical war, where do you feel Satan would deploy his personnel?

C. Which of these personnel would have most influence upon you?

### III. His Activities: His Tactics

A. From these verses, what are some of Satan's tactics?

Matthew 4:1

2 Corinthians 11:3

Luke 8:12

Revelations 12:10

John 8:44

1 Peter 5:8

B. What do you think makes Satan's tactics successful?

C. How do you combat Satan's tactics?

*"A good general must penetrate the brain of his enemy."* -- Victor Hugo

*In more recent times, Field Marshal Lord Montgomery told in his memoirs that when he was assigned to lead the North African campaign of the Allies against the Germans in World War II, his main subject of study was not the terrain on which they would fight, but the character, background and outlook of his opposite, General Rommel. If he could foresee what strategy Rommel was likely to adopt, then he could take steps to forestall and eventually conquer him. Should we be less prudent in the spiritual warfare in which we are engaged?*

-- J. Oswald Sanders, *Satan is No Myth*

### IV. Our Defense

A. From these verses, what are some tools God has given us to deal with the devil?

Mark 14:38

1 Corinthians 10:12

Acts 16:16-18

Ephesians 6:11-18

B. What are some practical ways to implement these tools?

C. When do you feel these tools need to be implemented?

*Freedom from the flesh comes not by an act of the human being, not by resolution and determination not to fall into that sin again. It comes not by promising God we won't repeat what has brought shame to his name. Deliverance from the power of the sin nature does not come by praying; it does not come by reading the Word of God, although they might contribute to the victory. Deliverance from the power of the sin nature comes from conscious dependence upon the Spirit of God, which permits him to live his life through us to the glory of God.*

-- J. Dwight Pentecost, *The Divine Comforter*

### V. Application

A. What tactic has Satan used effectively in your life? In other words, if you were Satan, how would you attack you?

B. Which of these weapons do you need to develop for effective use?

C. What does God promise will happen if you use this weapon? (1 Corinthians 10:13; James 1:2-4)



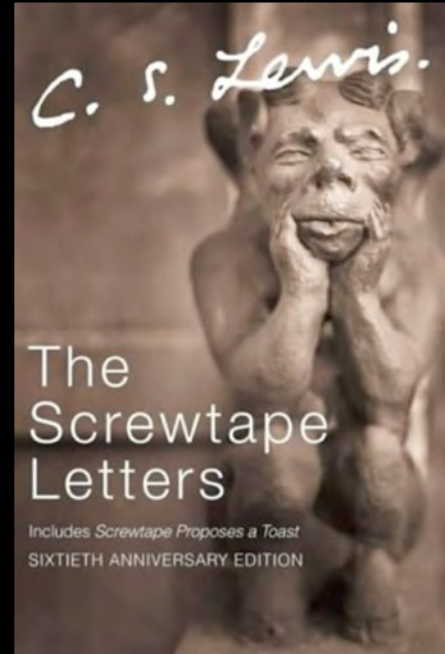
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# *Journey of Job*

For this week's, go to  
[hopecc.com/slides](https://hopecc.com/slides) & [hopecc.com/notes](https://hopecc.com/notes)

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. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight.

~ C. S. Lewis, *Screwtape Letters*, Preface



## 1 Peter 4:12-13

<sup>12</sup>Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.



**Who are Satan and demons?**

# Names in Scripture

Satan (the satan)

The devil = *diabolis*

Beelzebub

The serpent

# Names in Scripture

**Murderer / Liar**

**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.

# Names in Scripture

## Roaring Lion

### 1 Peter 5:8

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

# Names in Scripture

The accuser of the brethren

The prince/god of this world

The Prince of the power of air

Tempter

Dragon

The Evil One

**Where do they come from?**

# Where do they come from?

- a. Created Good, but decided to sin against God

Luke 10:18

He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven..."

# Where do they come from?

## b. Wanted to be like God

### Isaiah 14:12-15

<sup>12</sup>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! <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High." <sup>15</sup>But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit.



# Where do they come from?

## c. Actually, fallen angels

### 2 Peter 2:4

<sup>4</sup>For if God did not spare angels when they sinned . . .

### Jude 6

<sup>6</sup>And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home. . .

# Where are they going?

## Matthew 8:28-29

<sup>28</sup>When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. <sup>29</sup>“What do you want with us, Son of God?” they shouted. “Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?”

# Where are they going?

## Revelation 20:7-10

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**What are your enemy's schemes?**

# What are your enemy's schemes?

- a. Blind people to the truth of God

## 2 Corinthians 4:4

<sup>4</sup>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.

**What are your enemy's schemes?**

**b. Resist the church and persecute it**

**Matthew 16:18**

<sup>18</sup>And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

# What are your enemy's schemes?

## c. Promote Rotten Theology

### 1 Timothy 4:1

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

# What are your enemy's schemes?

- d. Ruin the church (and our lives) by leading us into temptation (esp. bitterness and unforgiveness)

## 2 Corinthians 2:10, 11

<sup>10</sup>If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven – if there was anything to forgive – I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, <sup>11</sup>in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.



# What are your enemy's schemes?

## e. Hinder the expansion of the work of God

### 1 Thessalonians 2:17-18

<sup>17</sup>But, brothers, when we were torn away from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you. <sup>18</sup>For we wanted to come to you – certainly I, Paul, did, again and again – but Satan stopped us.

# What are your enemy's schemes?

f. Take away your passion for Christ by deception into the lies of sin

## 2 Corinthians 11:3

<sup>3</sup>But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

How do we fight?

## Ephesians 6:10-20

<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

<sup>11</sup>Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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.

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<sup>14</sup>Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup>and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation...

## Ephesians 6:10-20

and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

“The abrupt transition from the ‘peaceful homes and healthful days’ of the previous paragraphs to the hideous malice of devilish plots in this section causes us a painful shock, but an essential one. We all wish we could spend our lives in undisturbed tranquility, among our loved-ones at home and in the fellowship of God’s people. But the way of the escapist has been effectively blocked. Christians have to face the prospect of conflict with God’s enemy and theirs. We need to accept the implications of this concluding passage of Paul’s letter.



[quoting from Dr. Martin Lloyd-Jones from  
*The Christian Warfare*, pp 16, 22]:

‘It is a stirring call to battle... Do you not hear the bugle,  
and the trumpet? ... We are being roused, we are being  
stimulated, we are being set upon our  
feet; we are told to be men. The whole  
tone is martial, it is manly, it is strong.’





Moreover, there will be no cessation of hostilities, not even a temporary truce or cease-fire, until the end of life or of history when the peace of heaven is attained. It seems probably that Paul implies this by his *Finally...* For the better manuscripts have an expression which should be not translated not 'finally', introducing the conclusion, but 'henceforth' meaning 'for the remaining time'.



If this is correct, then the apostle is indicating that the whole of the interim period between the Lord's two comings is to be characterized by conflict. The peace which God has made through Christ's cross is to be experienced only in the midst of a relentless struggle against evil. And for this the strength of the Lord and the armour of God are indispensable."



~ John Stott, *The Message of Ephesians*, pages 262-263

**1. This is NOT your war, and NOT your armor!**

## Ephesians 6:10-20

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1. This is **NOT** your war, and **NOT** your armor!
2. Use your **Defensive Armor**

## Ephesians 6:10-20

<sup>14</sup>Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup>and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation...

**1. This is NOT your war, and NOT your armor!**

**2. Use your Defensive Armor**

**3. Use your Offensive Weapons**

## Ephesians 6:10-20

and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.



“Life is war. That’s not all it is. But it is always that...Prayer is primarily a wartime walkie-talkie for the mission of the church as it advances against the powers of darkness and unbelief... God has given prayer as a wartime walkie-talkie so that we can call headquarters for everything we need as the kingdom of Christ advances in the world. Prayer gives *us* the significance of frontline forces and gives *God* the glory of a limitless Provider. The one who gives the power gets the glory.”

-John Piper, *Let the Nations Be Glad*



# Swing Away, Merrell



**Will you fight?**