**The REAL Enemy**

**Reading – 1 Peter 5:1-8**

**WHO IS SATAN?**

• ***[Matthew 4:1-10] Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” 4But he answered, “It is written, “‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ” 5Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple 6and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, “ ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and “ ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’ ” 7Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 8Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” 10Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’*** ”

• ***[Matthew 12:22-24] Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw. 23And all the people were amazed, and said, “Can this be the Son of David?” 24But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, “It is only by Beelzebub, the prince of demons that this man casts out demons.”***

• ***[Matthew 13:36-39] Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” 37He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. 38The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, 39and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels.***

• ***[John 12:31] Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.***

• ***[2 Corinthians 4:3-4] And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. 4In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel..***

• ***[2 Corinthians 11:13-15] For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. 14And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. 15So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness.***

• ***[Ephesians 2:2] in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—***

• ***[Revelation 12:9] And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.***

• ***[John 8:44] You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.***

• ***[Romans 6:16] Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?***

• ***[Acts 13:8-10] But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10and said, “O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord?***

**ATRIBUTES OF SATAN**

Pride may have been a motivation to sever fellowship with God because He may have wanted to be equal.  ***[1 Timothy 3:6] not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.***

Notice that this was the winning argument with Eve [Genesis 3:15].

He is not EQUAL to God, but must have permission to act regarding men. ***[Job 1:6-12] Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and*** [***£***](qv://steplinkto1%200000033360)***Satan also came among them. 7And the Lord said to Satan, “From where do you come?” So Satan answered the Lord and said, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it.” 8Then the Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?” 9So Satan answered the Lord and said, “Does Job fear God for nothing? 10Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. 11But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!” 12And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person.” So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord***.

• ***[Job 2:3-7] Then the Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause.” 4So Satan answered the Lord and said, “Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. 5But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!” 6And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, he is in your hand, but spare his life.” 7So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.***

• ***[Luke 22:31] And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.***

• ***[John 10:27-28] My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.***

• ***[James 4:7] Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.***

Satan was a created being. ***[Colossians 1:16] For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.***

Satan’s fate is sealed and he is like a junkyard dog on a chain. ***[2 Peter 2:4] God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;***

What does Satan try to wrest away from God now is respect and reverence.  ***[Psalm 111:9] He has sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever: Holy and awesome {reverend} is His name***.