

Know your enemy

The devil is our enemy

“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.”
1 Peter 5:8-9

The devil wants to lead us astray

And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down--that ancient serpent called the **devil**, or Satan, **who leads the whole world astray**. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. Revelation 12:7-9

“And no wonder, for **Satan** himself masquerades as an angel of light” 2 Corinthians 11:14

We must resist the devil

“Submit yourselves, then, to God. **Resist the devil**, and he will flee from you.” James 4:7
Do not run away from the devil. He is faster than you.
Do not laugh at the devil. He is pictured as “a roaring lion looking for someone to devour”

How do we resist the devil?

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ **Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.** ¹² 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.

¹³ 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.

Stand firm then,

with the **belt of truth** buckled around your waist,

with the **breastplate of righteousness in place**,

and with your **feet fitted with the readiness** that comes from the gospel of peace.

take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

Take the **helmet of salvation**

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

¹⁸ 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.” Ephesians 6:10-18

How does the devil lead us astray?

He incites us to disobey God.

1 Chronicles 21:1 “**Satan** rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel.”

He can bring great affliction loss and suffering loss

Job 2:7, “So **Satan** went out from the presence of the LORD and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the top of his head.”

Luke 13:16, “Jesus said, then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom **Satan** has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?”

He can offer riches to those who follow him

Matthew 4:8, “Again, the devil took Him (Jesus) to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

Satan takes away the Word of God from your heart and mind

Mark 4:15, “Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, **Satan** comes and takes away the word that was sown in them.”

Satan is a stumbling block causing us to fall

Matthew 16:23, “Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, **Satan**! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.”

Satan can enter into your heart and control your actions

John 13:27, “As soon as Judas took the bread, **Satan** entered into him.”

Acts 5:3, “Then Peter said, “Ananias, how is it that **Satan** has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?”

Satan can send his messengers to torment us

2 Corinthians 12:7, “To keep me (the Apostle Paul) from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of **Satan**, to torment me. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

Satan can stop us from going some where to share the Gospel

Thessalonians 2:18, “For we wanted to come to you--certainly I, Paul, did, again and again--but **Satan** stopped us.”

Satan is able to do counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders to deceive people.

2 Thessalonians 2:9, "The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of **Satan** displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders,¹⁰ and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved."

Also see Matthew 7:21, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.²² Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?'²³ Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

Hell is prepared for the devil

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the **devil** and his angels.'" Matthew 25:41

"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." Revelations 20:10

In Christ we have victory over the devil

Proverbs 2:7, "He holds **victory** in store for the upright, He is a shield to those whose walk is blameless,

Psalms 108:13, "With God we will gain the **victory**, and He will trample down our enemies."

Deuteronomy 20:4, "Hear, O Israel, today you are going into battle against your enemies. Do not be fainthearted or afraid; do not be terrified or give way to panic before them.⁴ For the LORD your God is the one who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you **victory**."

1 Corinthians 15:57, "But thanks be to God! He gives us the **victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 John 5:3, "This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,⁴ for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the **victory** that has overcome the world, even our faith.⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

I HAVE NOW COME

Joshua 5:13, "Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?" "Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the LORD **I have now come.**" Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?"

Joshua 6:2, "Then the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men."

Praise the Name of the Lord. Jesus has come. He is all-powerful. He is with us. He is within us. He will never leave us nor forsake us. With Him nothing is impossible. He will fight for you. In Him there is victory over the devil.

This is what the LORD says to you: `Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For **the battle is not yours**, but God's... You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the LORD will give you... Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the LORD will be with you.' " 2 Chronicles 20:15

Victory In Jesus

**I heard an old, old story
How a Saviour came from glory
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me
I heard about His groaning
Of His precious blood's atoning
Then I repented of my sin and won the victory**

**Oh, victory in Jesus my Savior forever
He sought me and He bought me
With His redeeming blood
He loved me ere I knew Him and all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood**

**I heard about His healing
Of His cleansing pow'er revealing
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see and then I cried
'Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit,'
And somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory**

**Oh, victory in Jesus my Savior forever
He sought me and He bought me
With His redeeming blood
He loved me and I knew Him and all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood**

**I heard about a mansion
He has built for me in glory
And I heard about the streets of gold
Beyond the crystal sea
About the angels singing and the old redemption story
And some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of victory**

**Oh, victory in Jesus my Savior forever
He sought me and He bought me
With His redeeming blood
He loved me and I knew Him and all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood**