

Be Aware of your Enemy the Devil

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We have a dangerous enemy & he often works “undercover”.

People can go astray in their understanding of Demons...

1. By ignoring him & believing He’s just a fairy tale myth.
2. Or giving them too much attention. We see a demon behind every difficulty, and think God can’t stop him.
3. Or we believe in the reality of a personified evil, but it has no practical effect in our lives.

Satan is a liar, a murderer, and a thief!

Case study... **See Mark 5:1-20**

He is a fallen angel, and works supernaturally to oppose us in ruthless, unscrupulous, destructive, & vile ways.

He can afflict us: Spiritually; Mentally/Emotionally; Physically.

- The worst damage he does is in relationships.
- He brokers in lies and deception.
- He is an illusionist.
- He persuades us to do his dirty work.
- Satan erodes trust in God, to live independent of Him.

Four basic strategies that the evil one uses against us...

- **Temptation.** - Sowing seeds of doubt about God’s goodness. Sources of temptation: The world, the flesh, & the devil.
- **Accusation.** Rev. 12:10 the “accuser of the brethren. Sowing dissension among the people of God. Also uses his inner thoughts of self-condemnation and despair.
- **Deception.** Satan masquerades as an angel of light. With deception, you “think” you are going the right way.

- **Direct attacks.** Open hostility towards Christians. *Satan is roaring lion seeking whom he may devour.* (1 Pet. 5:8)

Consider some typical **open doors** to the enemy: Occult involvement; Sexual immorality; Drug & alcohol abuse; Unforgiveness; Idolatry; and Generational sin.

Examples of demonic activity: excessive fear; worry / anxiety; spiritual dullness; condemning thoughts; suicidal thoughts; eating disorders; depression; discontentment.

Satan can develop strongholds in our lives. **2 Cor. 10:3-6.**

Satan leads in rebellion against God & wants us to join him.

How to break the sin/repent cycle...

Notice the authority & power God grants us to break free in **Luke 10:17-21** and **1 John 3:8**. The power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to us (Ephesians 1:18-20).

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and his mighty power" -Eph. 6:10.

Deliverance from evil involves: **(this requires humility)**

1. Thorough confession & repentance on our part.
2. Deliverance from the demonic oppression on God's part. - see *Gal. 5:1, Matt. 6:13*

For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and self-discipline. – 2 Timothy 1:7

Notice the exhortation in **Eph. 6:10-18** to put on the **full armor of God**.

Which piece of your armor is the weakest?

Come to Sat, June 19 seminar, 10am-12:30p for more info.