

# YOUR ADVERSARY

## 1 PETER 5:1-11

Text: 1 Peter 5:8

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<sup>8</sup> Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Introduction:

Notice the word **YOUR** adversary. The Devil wants you. He is stalking you. He is seeking to devour you.

We are in warfare today.

### Ephesians 6:10-16

<sup>10</sup> Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*. <sup>13</sup> Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; <sup>15</sup> And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; <sup>16</sup> Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

Notice the instruction in verse 16.

Above all; that means above all, give priority to, ABOVE ALL, taking the shield of faith wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

Do you believe that there is a Devil, who we call Satan.

Peter is speaking here from a personal experience.

That brings me to the first point of the message.

## **1. THE DESIRE OF THE ADVERSARY**

Just as God has intent for us, Satan has intent for us as well, and it's a counterfeit of what God's intent for us is.

The most dangerous thing to deal with in life is the thing that is nearest the truth yet it is not true.

Notice what God had Paul to write to the believers at Corinth.

### **2 Corinthians 11:13-15**

<sup>13</sup> For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. <sup>14</sup> And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. <sup>15</sup> Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Note Satan's desire.

**Luke 22:31**

<sup>31</sup> And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired *to have* you, that he may sift *you* as wheat:

Notice Satan has a desire to have you.

But thank God for verse 32.

**Luke 22:32**

<sup>32</sup> But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

First and Second Peter was Peter's strengthening the brethren.

Satan desires to sift you as wheat.

Notice again in Job

**Job 1:6-12**

<sup>6</sup> Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. <sup>7</sup> And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. <sup>8</sup> And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that *there is* none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? <sup>9</sup> Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? <sup>10</sup> Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. <sup>11</sup> But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face. <sup>12</sup> And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath *is*

in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

### **Job 2:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. <sup>2</sup> And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. <sup>3</sup> And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that *there is* none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.

Satan wanted his integrity, and he wants yours and mine as well.

God's desire is to build up and complete, the Devil's desire is to tear down and destroy.

## **2. THE DEVICES OF THE ADVERSARY**

### **2 Corinthians 2:11**

<sup>11</sup> Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

#### **A. Un-forgiveness**

### **2 Corinthians 2:10**

<sup>10</sup> To whom ye forgive any thing, I *forgive* also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave *it*, for your sakes *forgave I it* in the person of Christ;

## B. Pride

### Genesis 3:1-7

<sup>1</sup> Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? <sup>2</sup> And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: <sup>3</sup> But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. <sup>4</sup> And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: <sup>5</sup> For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. <sup>6</sup> And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. <sup>7</sup> And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

Notice some other devices in this passage.

- Doubt – “Hath God said?”
- Dispute – “Ye Shall not surely die”
- Distract – “When she saw; pleasant to the eye”
- Desire – “To make one wise”

## C. Rebellion

Notice:

## Ezekiel 28

Verses 1-10 deal with the wicked prince and his pride and rebellion

In verses 11-19 the focus is now turned to the one behind this wicked prince, the Ruler of Darkness – Satan, the Devil.

D. Wisdom

E. Beauty

F. Violence

### **3. THE DOOM OF THE ADVERSARY**

#### **Revelation 20:10**

<sup>10</sup> And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Before he is cast into the lake of fire, he is walking about seeking whom he may devour with his many devices.

He is so bold today that he goes into God's field and sows tares among the wheat.

Close: