

# **The Wiles of the Devil**

## **A Biblical Study of the Christian's Adversary**

*Be sober, be vigilant;  
because your adversary the devil,  
as a roaring lion,  
walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.*  
1 Peter 5:8

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## Introduction

*“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.” (Ephesians 6:12).*

Our enemy is an unseen foe who exists in an order of created beings that are distinct from and higher than the human race. These creatures were originally angels who were created to serve God in heaven. One such angel named Lucifer was a cherub in the very presence of God. He led a rebellion against God and was cast out of heaven. In his fall from glory, Lucifer, now called Satan, took a host of angels with him. Satan and the fallen angels (demons) are now actively engaged in warfare against the saints of God. They want to establish their own kingdom above the Kingdom of God. Although the ultimate defeat of this evil hoard is certain, the battle is fierce and the dangers are many. We must be vigilant and properly armed for this conflict.

It is our purpose in these lessons to study what the Bible teaches about the demonic realm. Since there are no sections or single passages in Scripture which teach about Satan and demons in a systematic format, we will look at a variety of Scripture passages which refer to them or teach about them. From these texts, we will attempt to gain a fairly complete understanding of the origin, the present work, and the final end of Satan and his demons. In addition to the texts chosen for this series, there are many other references in Scripture to these enemies of Christ and His people. Time constraints will not permit us to examine all of these texts, but those selected should provide a fairly complete survey of our subject.

The study begins in Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28. These two texts are thought to provide us with the account of Satan’s fall from heaven. His first appearance on earth and in Scripture is in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3. Here he launched his warfare against God by seeking to tempt man, created in the image of God for the glory of God, to disobey God. Appearing as a serpent, he successfully tempted man to rebel against his Creator. Corruption and death ensued and God’s good creation came under His wrath and the bondage of sin. At the same time, God announced His gracious plan to deliver His people from the power of sin and Satan through “the seed of the woman.” Subsequently, Satan has devoted himself and his evil minions to preventing and overthrowing the grace of God. He will not succeed. His destiny in eternal flames is certain. However, he poses a formidable foe to every man, and particularly to the saints of God. It therefore behooves us to become familiar with the “wiles of the devil.” It is to this end that we enter this study course.

A study of the ways in which the devil attacks the believer would be very discouraging, not withstanding his ultimate doom, were it not for some very important texts also included in our study. These texts teach us how to withstand the devil and his demonic forces. Our gracious Lord has not left us to battle this powerful and furious foe in our own strength. He has provided us the armor of God and the example of the incarnate Son of God that we may be able to stand in the evil day. Ultimately, He Himself is our Fortress.

*Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling,  
and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,  
To the only wise God our Saviour,  
be glory and majesty, dominion and power,  
both now and ever. Amen. Jude 24-25*

## Schedule

June 5	Lesson 1:	Lucifer Cast Out Isaiah 14:12-21; Ezekiel 28:11-19
June 12	Lesson 2:	The Serpent in Paradise Genesis 3
June 19	Lesson 3:	Consider Job! Job 1-2
June 26	Lesson 4:	The Temptation of Jesus Matthew 4:1-11
July 3	Lesson 5:	The Enemy and the Kingdom Matthew 13:1-30; 36-43
July 10	Lesson 6:	Demons Cast Out Luke 8:26-39
July 17	Lesson 7:	Two Kingdoms Luke 11:14-26
July 24	Lesson 8:	The Father of Lies John 8:31-59
July 31	Lesson 9:	Satan in the Early Church Acts 5:1-11; 16:16-34; 19:11-20
August 7	Lesson 10:	Satan's Power and God's Grace Ephesians 2:1-10
August 14	Lesson 11:	Corrupting the Truth Jude
August 21	Lesson 12:	The Doom of Satan Revelation 20
August 28	Lesson 13:	The Armor of God Ephesians 6:10-20

# Scripture Memorization

## Ephesians 6:10-18

- <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.
- <sup>17</sup> And take the helmet of salvation,  
and the sword of the Spirit,  
which is the word of God:
- <sup>18</sup> Praying always with all prayer  
and supplication in the Spirit,  
and watching thereunto with all perseverance  
and supplication for all saints.

# A Mighty Fortress is our God

Martin Luther, 1529

Tr. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1853

Martin Luther, 1529

1. A might - y For - tress is our God, A Bul-wark nev - er fail - ing;  
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be los - ing;  
 3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, Should threat - en to un - do us,  
 4. That Word a - bove all earth - ly powers, No thanks to them, a - bid - eth;

Our Help - er he a - mid the flood Of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.  
 Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choos - ing.  
 We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri - umph through us.  
 The Spir - it and the gifts are ours Through him who with us sid - eth;

For still our an - cient foe Doth seek to work us woe; His craft and pow'r are  
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is he, Lord Sab - a - oth his  
 The prince of dark - ness grim, We trem - ble not for him; His rage we can en -  
 Let goods and kin - dred go, This mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may

great; And, armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - qual.  
 Name, From age to age the same, And he must win the bat - tle.  
 dure, For lo! his doom is sure; One lit - tle word shall fell him.  
 kill: God's truth a - bid - eth still; His king - dom is for ev - er. A - men.

## Lesson 1: Lucifer Cast Out Isaiah 14:12-21; Ezekiel 28:11-19

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10**

**HYMN: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"**

*SUMMARY: In their prophecies against the kings of Babylon and Tyre, these two prophets portray for us the origin and end of Satan. He was created by God as Lucifer, the perfect and beautiful cherub who ministered before the very presence of God. Although highly exalted in the heavens, he coveted a higher place. He wanted to be above God. Therefore, God cast him out of heaven. His opposition to God continues on earth, but his doom is sure. He is promised the lowest place in hell under eternal judgment.*

Isaiah 14:12-21

1. Who is Lucifer?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What five things did Lucifer want?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What will happen to Lucifer?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What has Lucifer done on earth?

Ezekiel 28:11-19

5. How is the king of Tyre described?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What was the position of this king of Tyre?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What iniquity was found in him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What did God do to him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What is the future of this king of Tyre?

## Lesson 2: The Serpent in Paradise

### Genesis 3

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-11**

**HYMN: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"**

*SUMMARY: Satan began his pernicious work on earth when he came as the serpent to tempt Eve to doubt and disobey God. She believed his lies and ate the forbidden fruit. She gave to Adam and, by his disobedience, sin and death entered God's good creation. God pronounced a curse upon the participants, but also spoke of a future victory over the serpent. Adam and Eve were evicted from the Garden and cherubim were placed to guard access to the Garden and the Tree of Life.*

1. How did the serpent tempt the woman to disobey God?
2. Why did the woman eat the forbidden fruit?
3. What happened when her husband ate of the forbidden fruit?
4. What did Adam and Eve tell God when He came to them in the Garden?
5. What did the LORD God say to the serpent?
6. What did the LORD God say to the woman?
7. What did the LORD God say to Adam?
8. What immediate actions did the LORD God take, and why?
9. What did the LORD God do after He drove Adam and Eve from the Garden?



## Lesson 3: Consider Job!

### Job 1-2

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-12**

**HYMN: “A Mighty Fortress is our God”**

*SUMMARY: Job's reputation as a righteous man who feared God was challenged by Satan. He was certain that Job's devotion to God was because of the material blessings bestowed by God upon him. The LORD first permitted Satan to take away his family and prosperity, and then his health. In all this, Job did not sin. His faith in the LORD was firm.*

1. Who was Job?
2. What was life like for Job?
3. How did Satan respond to the LORD's challenge to consider His servant Job?
4. What permission did the LORD grant to Satan?
5. What did Satan do to Job?
6. How did Job respond?
7. How did Satan respond to the LORD's second challenge to consider His servant Job?
8. What permission did the LORD grant to Satan?
9. What happened to Job, and how did he respond?

## Lesson 4: The Temptation of Jesus

### Matthew 4:1-11

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-13**

**HYMN: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"**

*SUMMARY: Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. After forty days of fasting, the devil came to Him and tempted Him three times. Jesus overcame each temptation by reference to the written Word of God. After the devil left Him, angels came and ministered to Him.*

1. Why did Jesus go into the wilderness?
2. How was Jesus prepared for this temptation, and what was His condition when it came?
3. What was the first temptation by the devil?
4. How did Jesus answer this first temptation?
5. What was the second temptation by the devil?
6. How did Jesus answer this second temptation?
7. What was the third temptation by the devil?
8. How did Jesus answer this third temptation?
9. What happened after the devil left Jesus?

## Lesson 5: The Enemy and the Kingdom

### Matthew 13:1-30; 36-43

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-14**

**HYMN: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"**

*SUMMARY: Jesus told two parables which show how Satan opposes the work of God. In the parable of the sower, Satan snatches away the Word of God as it is newly sown in the heart. In the second, Satan sows tares among the wheat and mixes his own evil sons with the sons of the Kingdom of God.*

1. List the four types of soil and what happened to the seed which was sown in each.  
soil 1

soil 2

soil 3

soil 4

2. Why did Jesus speak in parables?

3. What is the interpretation of the reception of the seed by the four soil types?  
soil 1

soil 2

soil 3

soil 4

4. What happened in the field in which the man had sown good seed?

5. What is the explanation of the parable of the tares?

6. What application did Jesus make of the parable of the tares?

## Lesson 6: Demons Cast Out Luke 8:26-39

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-15**

**HYMN: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"**

*SUMMARY: When Jesus came to the country of the Gadarenes, He met a man possessed by many demons. The man was kept in chains and lived in the tombs. The demons recognized Jesus as the Son of God and asked Him not to send them into the deep (abyss). Jesus sent them into a herd of swine which rushed over a cliff and into the lake. Those who saw this miracle and the man now composed before Jesus begged Jesus to leave them. Jesus sent the man back to tell of God's mercy to his community, and then he departed.*

1. What was the condition of the man who met Jesus?
2. How did the man greet Jesus?
3. What was the demon's name, and what did it mean?
4. What request did the demons make of Jesus?
5. Where did Jesus send the demons?
6. What happened to the demons?
7. What happened to the demon-possessed man?
8. How did the local people react to this miracle?
9. How did the man who had been possessed of demons react, and what did Jesus tell him?

## Lesson 7: Two Kingdoms

### Luke 11:14-26

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-16**

**HYMN: “A Mighty Fortress is our God”**

*SUMMARY: After Jesus cast out a demon, He was accused of casting out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of demons. Jesus taught that Satan would not cast out his own demons since a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. Rather, this was evidence of the presence of God’s kingdom among them and His power over the kingdom of Satan. He warned of the danger of not receiving Him.*

1. What miracle did Jesus perform?
2. How was this miracle received?
3. Why was it improbable that He was casting out demons by the power of Beelzebub?
4. How did Jesus turn their accusation back against them?
5. What did it mean that He was casting out demons by the power of God?
6. What did Jesus tell them about the strong man guarding his palace (house)?
7. What possible reactions are there to Jesus?
8. What did Jesus say about the unclean spirit who went out of a man?
9. What happened when that unclean spirit returned to the man he left?



## Lesson 9: Satan in the Early Church

Acts 5:1-11; 16:16-34; 19:11-20

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-18**

**HYMN: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"**

*SUMMARY: Satan filled the hearts of Ananias and Sapphira to lie to the Holy Spirit, and they both died because of it. Later, in Philippi, Paul and Silas were arrested because they cast an evil spirit out of a slave girl. Still later, in Ephesus, they cast out evil spirits. Unbelieving Jewish exorcists were not able to duplicate Paul's power over the evil spirits.*

Acts 5:1-11

1. What did Ananias and Sapphira do?
2. How did Peter explain what they had done?
3. What happened to Ananias and Sapphira, and how did the church respond?

Acts 16:16-34

4. Why was Paul annoyed in Philippi?
5. Why did Paul and Silas get arrested?
6. How did Paul and Silas get out of jail?

Acts 19:11-20

7. What unusual miracles did Paul perform in Ephesus?
8. What happened when the Jewish exorcists tried to cast out an evil spirit?
9. How did the Ephesians respond to this?

## Lesson 10: Satan's Power and God's Grace Ephesians 2:1-10

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-18**

**HYMN: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"**

*SUMMARY: Salvation is a sovereign work of grace in which those who are spiritually dead and subject to both the prince of the power of the air and their own fleshly lusts are quickened (made alive) and delivered from the wrath of God through faith alone.*

1. What was the former condition of those to whom Paul was writing?
2. How is Satan described, and what role does he play in the lives of unbelievers?
3. What did Paul say about the children of wrath?
4. Why did God intervene?
5. What did God do?
6. What ultimate objective did God have in mind for this?
7. What is the cause of salvation?
8. Why is it proper to say that salvation is *by faith alone*?
9. What is God's plan for those He saves?



## Lesson 11: Corrupting the Truth Jude

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-18**

**HYMN: “A Mighty Fortress is our God”**

*SUMMARY: Jude exhorts his readers to “contend earnestly for the faith.” The Church of Jesus Christ faces the challenge of ungodly teachers whose intent is to corrupt the grace of God and deny our Lord Jesus Christ. The consequence of such apostasy is severe. To illustrate this, Jude shows that the angels who departed from their “proper domain” will suffer “the vengeance of eternal fire.”*

1. To whom did Jude write this epistle, and why did he write it?
2. What did Jude say about the men who had led him to write this epistle?
3. What three historical illustrations did Jude remind us about?
4. How is Michael the archangel contrasted with these men?
5. What three men did Jude think of with regard to these men, and why did he think of them?
6. What analogies from nature did Jude use to describe these men?
7. What was Enoch’s message?
8. What exhortations or instructions did Jude give to the saints?
9. What word of comfort did Jude give?

## Lesson 12: The Doom of Satan Revelation 20

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-18**

**HYMN: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"**

*SUMMARY: When Christ returns to reign on earth with His saints, Satan will be cast into the bottomless pit. At the end of a thousand years, Satan will be released to once again deceive the nations. God will defeat Satan's rebellion with fire from heaven, and Satan will be cast into the lake of fire to be tormented forever. After judgment before the great white throne, those not found in the Book of Life will be cast with Satan into the lake of fire.*

1. Who is the dragon, and what will happen to him?
2. Who will reign with Christ, and for how long?
3. What is the first resurrection, and who is raised?
4. What will happen to Satan after the thousand years?
5. What will Satan do?
6. What will happen to Satan and his rebellion?
7. Who is on the great white throne?
8. What will happen at the great white throne?
9. What will be the conclusion of the great white throne judgment?

## Lesson 13: The Armor of God Ephesians 6:10-20

**MEMORY: Ephesians 6:10-18**

**HYMN: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"**

*SUMMARY: The people of God are to be prepared for spiritual battle against the powers of wickedness. To do so, we must put on the whole armor of God. This armor will enable us to stand against the assaults of the Evil One. Each piece is to be put on with prayer and watchfulness that we might stand in the power of His might.*

1. What did Paul tell the Ephesian brethren to do?
2. What is the Christian's battle?
3. Why should we put on the whole armor of God?
4. What is the significance of the pieces of armor?  
Belt

Breastplate

Shoes

Shield

Helmet

Sword

5. What instructions did Paul give about prayer?
6. What prayer request did Paul make for himself?