

# S A T A N

We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

(1 John 5:19)

Satan was the highest of all angelic creatures, of the order of angels called cherubim. His name was Lucifer. The high position and his splendor went to his head, and he sinned against God. Lucifer's sin was pride. He wanted to be like God. The prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel personified Satan in "king of Babylon" and "king of Tyre."

How you have fallen from heaven,  
O star of the morning, son of the dawn!  
You have been cut down to the earth,  
You who have weakened the nations!  
But you said in your heart,  
*"I will ascend to heaven;  
I will raise my throne above the stars of  
God,  
And I will sit on the mount of assembly  
In the recesses of the north.  
"I will ascend above the heights of the  
clouds;  
I will make myself like the Most High."*  
Nevertheless you will be thrust down to  
Sheol,  
To the recesses of the pit.  
Those who see you will gaze at you,  
They will ponder over you, saying,  
"Is this the man who made the earth tremble,  
Who shook kingdoms,  
Who made the world like a wilderness  
And overthrew its cities,  
Who did not allow his prisoners to go home?"  
(Isaiah 14:12–17)

You had the seal of perfection,  
Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.  
You were in Eden, the garden of God;  
Every precious stone was your covering:  
The ruby, the topaz, and the diamond . . .  
On the day that you were created  
They were prepared.  
You were the anointed cherub who covers,  
And I placed you there.

You were on the holy mountain of God;  
You walked in the midst of the stones of fire.

You were blameless in your ways  
From the day you were created,  
Until unrighteousness was found in you.

By the abundance of your trade  
You were internally filled with violence,  
And you sinned;  
Therefore I have cast you as profane  
From the mountain of God.  
And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub,  
From the midst of the stones of fire.

Your heart was lifted up because of your  
beauty;  
You corrupted your wisdom by reason of  
your splendor.

I cast you to the ground;  
I put you before kings,  
That they may see you.

By the multitude of your iniquities,  
In the unrighteousness of your trade,  
You profaned your sanctuaries.  
Therefore I have brought fire from the midst  
of you;  
It has consumed you,  
And I have turned you to ashes on the earth  
In the eyes of all who see you.

All who know you among the peoples  
Are appalled at you;  
You have become terrified,  
And you will be no more.

(Ezekiel 28:12–19)

Satan's plan from the beginning has been to control and destroy people—God's object of love. We are such easy prey! Satan doesn't know everything God knows, but he has been around for a long time, so I am sure he knows all there is to know about us—people and our sinful nature. Ever since Satan deceived Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, he has continued with his army of fallen angels—now demons—to wreck havoc in our lives. Satan has blinded people's minds and he holds them captive to do his will. We know his final destination—the lake of fire and brimstone (Revelation 20:10).

We, the believers, have to fully realize the truth that in our lives *Satan is already defeated*, that he was cast out, that he was judged and his work destroyed. Jesus

accomplished all this on the cross and through His resurrection. This victory applies to us through our faith in Jesus. Heading for the Cross Jesus said,

“Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out.

“And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.”

(John 12:31, 32)

Jesus promised to send a Helper—the Spirit of truth, the Holy Spirit.

And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment . . .

and concerning judgment, because *the ruler of this world has been judged.*

(John 16:8, 11)

The Son of God appeared for this purpose, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

(1 John 3:8)

*Beloved, we must believe it and act upon it!*

Satan is already defeated. Of course, he doesn't want us to know this truth. Actually, he doesn't want us to know that he exists. He is the master deceiver, the Father of Lies.

Jesus said,

“You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a liar, and the father of lies.”

(John 8:44)

**Satan's relationship with the unbelievers:**

He snatches away the Word from them

Matthew 13:19

He is their father

John 8:44

He blinds their minds

2 Corinthians 4:4

He holds them captive to do his will

2 Timothy 2:26

**Satan's relationship with the believers:**

None

When we obey God and receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, Satan loses authority over us. Actually, now the believer has an authority over him.

As we repent of our sin—unbelief in Jesus—and become believers, we pass from darkness to light, from death to life, and from the dominion of Satan to the kingdom of God. When we turn to Jesus, Satan’s power over us is completely broken. *We must believe it and act upon it!*

Satan knows he lost us forever, but he will do whatever it takes to paralyze us. He will lie, he will discourage, he will tempt, he will question our identity, and he will put doubts in our mind through his false prophets and their erroneous teachings. He will try to discredit the Word of God. He will confuse us. He will keep us busy on the surface so we will not discover the treasure we have within us—but only if we let him! Otherwise, he is powerless. We have to see him as such.

Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

(1 Peter 5:8, 9)

How do you resist the Devil? Just don’t believe his lies! Of course, to recognize his lies, you have to know the truth.

Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might.

Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

(Ephesians 6:10–12)

Let us take a closer look at the full armor of God in the book of Ephesians 6:13–17:

- **Gird your loins with truth:** We need to know the truth—Jesus.
- **Put on the breastplate of righteousness:** The righteousness of Jesus, which was imputed to us.
- **Shed your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace:** The Gospel is that Jesus accomplished salvation for us, and when we receive Him, we enter into His peace.
- **Take up the shield of faith:** The object of our faith has to be God and His Word: Jesus—the living Word, the Scriptures—the written Word.
- **Take the helmet of salvation:** We have to rest in the truth that in Jesus Christ we have eternal life. God Himself is the Guarantor of this central truth.

- **Take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God:** We have to know the Word of God, which is our weapon. We have to know the living Word—Jesus.

With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit.  
(Ephesians 6:18)

Believers have clothed themselves with Jesus (Galatians 3:27). If we know what the Scriptures mean, we will easily recognize anything coming from Satan. I cannot stress enough the importance of knowing the Word of God and letting the Holy Spirit teach you and renew your mind with it. Beloved, how can you be victorious in your everyday life, if you don't know your Father, His ways, His thoughts, and His desires?

If you don't know the *truth*, if you believe one day "this," and the next day "that," if you are not sure what you believe, if you are confused and unstable at times—you lose the covering for your loins, and some vital parts are exposed there!

If your breastplate is not the *righteousness* of Jesus, but your own self-righteousness—there goes the breastplate, and your heart is exposed!

If you don't grasp the fullness of the *gospel of peace*, if you don't understand fully what Jesus accomplished on the cross and with His resurrection—there goes the covering for your feet! Your feet are exposed—your walk in the Spirit will be affected.

If your *faith* is not established, if you are double minded at times, how will you extinguish all the flaming missiles of the Evil One?

If you doubt your *salvation*, if you believe that you can lose your eternal life, perhaps even believe, as some do, that you can give it back—there goes the helmet! Your head (your mind) is exposed.

If you don't know God's Word—there goes your sword, your weapon! You may be engaged in spiritual warfare with a "stick" and possibly dressed only in "beach clothes."

Brothers and sisters, the armor of God is our spiritual protection. Keep in mind that our enemy is a spirit. Jesus defeated him on the cross.

We don't need to be preoccupied with Satan and his scheming. We have to be occupied with Jesus, with the truth. The truth is a light to us, and a light automatically dispels darkness (the error). We don't need to read books on how to fight the Devil and how to cast out demons. Jesus has already done that in us—the children of God. When we study our Bible with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we learn the deep spiritual meaning of the Word of God. *We believe it and act upon it!*

Every time we read something, we should meditate upon it (think it all through) and be sure we understand to the fullest the meaning of it. The Holy Spirit is the best teacher there is. Go to Him.

God is spirit and His Word needs to be spiritually discerned. We have to stop reading it in our flesh (with human understanding), and start reading it in the Spirit (with God's understanding). All the confusion among Christians is because of reading and interpreting the Bible with human understanding. *Satan loves confusion*. He comes in many ways. He is a master deceiver. He can disguise himself as an angel of light and his servants can

disguise themselves as servants of righteousness (2 Corinthians 11:14, 15). Satan will use even good as a tool to bring about his purposes. Do not be deceived!

It is either God or Satan who control us. We have to realize this truth. We make decisions everyday, and we walk either in the Spirit—God’s way, or we suppose we are doing things our way, but in reality, it is Satan’s way—the way of this world. According to the Scriptures, self is earthly, natural and demonic. We may not see it this way, but this is the way it is.

### **The Battle Is for Our Mind**

In this day and age, I could probably assume that you have heard of anorexia—it is, for instance, someone who stands in the front of a mirror, looking like a toothpick, and thinks of himself or herself as fat. If one can be deceived into believing a lie like this—something which could be seen—the possibilities of deception by things not visible are endless. It is amazing how blinded we can be to the truth. *As a man thinks, so he is.*

Think of yourself as a beloved child of God, a child who is loved by Him unconditionally, is accepted by Him, and is forgiven. See yourself as a friend of Jesus, holy and blameless, righteous and complete—a saint. Beloved, think of yourself as:

- Someone who will live eternally in God’s kingdom.
- Someone who is seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus already.
- Someone who has received everything he or she needs to life and godliness *through the true knowledge of God.*
- Someone who is equipped in every good thing to do God’s will.

If you have received Jesus, all of these truths apply to you. (Read chapter “Christians.”)

Brothers and sisters, we must know our identity in Jesus Christ and everything we already possess in Him. We may not feel like it sometimes, but we should not live by our feelings, but by faith. The rest will follow. Beloved, trust God. Know your Father. The next time anything contrary to God’s Word comes your way, see it for what it is—a lie from Satan. Hold on to the truth. Do not doubt and resist. Satan has nothing on you; he is not your master anymore. You belong to God. *You must believe it and act upon it!* Don’t be afraid of Satan. Don’t even think about him. Don’t waste your time with that loser. Instead of that, think about Jesus and His resurrected life that He has given you. *Jesus is your life now.* Our attitude should be like that of the apostle Paul’s:

I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.

(Galatians 2:20)

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Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil;

and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

(Hebrews 2:14, 15)

**Satan's other names:**

|                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Lucifer                        | Isaiah 14:12 KJV    |
| Beelzebub                      | Matthew 12:24 KJV   |
| Ruler of the demons            | Matthew 12:24       |
| Ruler of the world             | John 14:30          |
| god of this world              | 2 Corinthians 4:4   |
| Belial                         | 2 Corinthians 6:15  |
| Prince of the power of the air | Ephesians 2:2       |
| Tempter                        | 1 Thessalonians 3:5 |
| Evil one                       | 1 John 5:19         |
| Devil                          | Revelation 12:9     |
| Dragon                         | Revelation 12:9     |
| Serpent                        | Revelation 12:9     |

**Satan is:**

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Created being                | Ezekiel 28:13      |
| Murderer                     | John 8:44          |
| Liar, and the Father of lies | John 8:44          |
| Oppressor                    | Acts 10:38         |
| Schemer                      | 2 Corinthians 2:11 |
| Crafty                       | 2 Corinthians 11:3 |
| Spirit being                 | Ephesians 6:11, 12 |
| Adversary                    | 1 Peter 5:8        |
| Confirmed sinner             | 1 John 3:8         |
| Accuser of brethren          | Revelation 12:10   |