



Satan

Women's Discipleship Class – January 4, 2018

Verses Covered This Week

John 10:10

Isaiah 14:12 – 15

Ezekiel 28:12

John 12:30

Matthew 25:41

Revelation 20:15

Matthew 4:1 – 11

Matthew 4:3

Matthew 13:39

1 Peter 5:8

Revelation 12:9

John 8:44

Revelation 12:10

1 John 2:13

We're going to spend three weeks here. I don't like to dwell on the negative in scripture, but we do need to know who our enemy is. So we're going to talk today about him as an individual. Next week we will talk about his methods. Third week we will talk about his demons and how they work in your life and how they don't. It's interesting, as with so many words in the New Testament, so many words are not translated. Satanás, σατανάς is the Greek word for Satan. So obviously if you transliterate that, which means you just sound the word out in English, it's not translated. The Greek word actually means, we'll look at this in 1 Peter, but it means adversary. So it's someone who's opposed to you. So we're going to look and walk through at who he is.

Now first of all I want you to go to his purpose in your life. Go to John chapter 10, verse 10. We're going to cover a lot of verses today. So just be ready to fly. Good way to get your fingers in touch after all the cookies you ate over the holidays. So he says, words of Christ:

¹⁰The thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy; I've come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

So his purpose in your life is to steal, kill, and destroy everything that would remove God's abundant life in you. So that's his purpose. His agenda is to accomplish that in your life. Now let me be clear. To be able to do this you have to partner with him. He can't do this without your partnership. If you don't join in with him, he can't steal, kill, and destroy. Jesus can only bring an abundant life if He's in partnership with you. So it's up to you, really, which one of these agendas goes.

Now I want you to look at the description of Satan's origin. Number one, look at Isaiah, chapter 14, verses 12 - 15. Look at Isaiah, chapter 14. There are basically two passages in the Old Testament that most people agree reflect his origin. We're going to look at the next one in a second. But listen to what he says.

¹²“How you are fallen from heaven, O day star, son of dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who lay the nations low! ¹³You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God, I will set my throne on high, I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north. ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’ ¹⁵But you are brought down to Sheol, to the far reaches of the pit.”

Now before we examine that, I want you to also go to Ezekiel, chapter 28, because he has similar statements about your enemy. Look at Ezekiel 28, verses 12 to 19. He talks about the King of Tyre, a double prophecy, but obviously so much of this can only apply to Satan.

¹²“You are the signet of perfection, full of wisdom, perfect in beauty.

Isaiah, he calls him the day star. Venus, the planet Venus, the beauty of that planet, in the morning. There is enhanced in him, and this is key, a deep beauty that God has given him. Now this is in contrast to all the things you see on television. And what you hear most people talk about when they allude to demons. When I grew up I watched all these, I loved science fiction movies and I loved horror movies. So one of the scariest ones I ever saw was one about gargoyles, which were basically demons in the mountains. But they were hideous, they were ugly, they were frightening. That is not what you have with the enemy. He doesn't have a red suit and a pitchfork and all this stuff. There is a deep beauty to him. He's called the day star here. It says:

You were the signet of perfection, you were full of wisdom, perfect in beauty. ¹³You were in Eden, the garden of God; (a clear reference, the king of Tyre was not, Satan was) every precious stone was your covering: sardius, topaz, diamond, beryl, onyx, jasper, sapphire, emerald, carbuncle, and crafted in gold were your settings and your engravings.

So there's this long detailed description of the immense beauty that God gave him.

On the day that you were created they were prepared. ¹⁴You were an anointed guardian cherub

So he's not an angel, he's a cherub. Remember there are four beings. There are the four living beings in Revelation. You have the cherubim, you have the seraphim, and you have angels. Now

Michael is the archangel of God. He may have been the archangel of God, as a cherub, but he is definitely a cherub. And if you remember they're the ones over the mercy seat.

I placed you. You were on the holy mountain of God; in the midst of the stones of fire you walked. ¹⁵You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created

So there was no sin in him at his point of creation. This will come later.

Until unrighteousness was found in you. ¹⁶In the abundance of your trade you were filled with violence in your midst.

And so he goes on and on, lists several things. Look down in 17.

¹⁷Your heart was proud because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor.

In other words, you gave up what you knew was true because you believed in your beauty.

I cast you to the ground; I exposed you before kings, to feast their eyes on you.

So you have the same kind of thing in both places. You have deep beauty. You have perfection. You have an arrival of sin and you have that because he wants to overthrow God. Now we'll get to the demons when we go to Revelation. We won't look at that today, but he takes a third of heaven with him, which is an astounding statement in the fact that somehow these demons are so assured of his ability to overthrow God, that they join in with him. I mean it's a staggering thing. He is brilliant at what he does, which is why you struggle with him. The reason he has the ability to tempt you so well, both things talk about his deep beauty, when he showed up to Eve there was nothing frightening about him. He carried on this normal, casual conversation in which he pulled her away from God. The same way he pulled, and really there was a sense of overthrowing God when he offered them, he said, "Look if you eat from this tree, you'll be like God." So there's a sense of which, "Well we'll be equal to Him. We can at least get there." But this, I think you sense when you deal with him and his imps. I think you sense that beauty and that beauty pulls you into his adversarial purpose from what God has for you. I think you feel it and you sense it. He is not like, I'm going to tell you, there are two things you can't base your theology on. And I want to be careful of one here. You can't base your theology on church music. OK. Number two, you can't base it on television. And you certainly can't base it on those idiots, I remind you, if a guy is over 40 and still has his hair, do not trust him. So he's created with deep, deep beauty. Absolute perfection. The anointed cherub that guards. I mean God made him probably the number one guy of all of his creation until we, obviously were being created, but that beauty for some reason that we do not understand drives him, he tries to overthrow God, and he fails.

Now I want you to look at why he hates you. Now I want you to look at a couple verse with me. So we're going to cover a little ground here. I want you to go to John 12:30. Listen to Christ.

³⁰Jesus answered and said, "This voice has come for your sake, not Mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out."

And when He says, “Now,” what is he talking about? In verse 27 He says,

²⁷“Now is my soul trouble; what shall I say, “Father, save Me from this hour?” But for this purpose I have come to this hour.

So when He says, now, what’s He referencing? What’s the point of time in His life? Crucifixion. His death. So He’s referencing His death. His ransom payment on the cross. Now listen:

³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.”

So he’s now the ruler is cast out. In other words, it’s at the death of Jesus that he is cast out. Now let me show you something. Look at Matthew 25:41; particularly in connection with this. Now listen to what Christ says:

⁴¹“Then He will say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels;

Now you stay exactly where you are. I’m going to read you Revelation 20:15. Here’s what it says:

²⁵If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

So if you don’t know Jesus, your destiny is the lake of fire. That’s your destiny. It is a destiny prepared for this guy. But he’s the ruler of the world and Jesus says, “He’s now going to be cast out as ruler of the world,” based on His death. So here’s what’s happened. When Satan sinned, when this arrival of sin came in his life, he decided to overthrow God, God at that moment created the lake of fire for him. However, when you come to Genesis 3, and he talks us into our sin, we deed the world to him. In Genesis 1 and 2, he’s not the ruler of the world, God is. After Genesis 3, he’s the ruler of the world. It is the cross that casts him out of this world and re-orient him to this place. When Genesis 3 occurs, our destiny is the lake of fire. It’s no longer Satan’s. After the death of Jesus, this has been reversed. Our destiny, if we accept Christ, is now heaven. His destiny has been restored to the lake of fire. This is why you have the experience of Gethsemane. When Jesus gets under those olive trees and he prays three times and he sweats blood, it is because the enemy is trying to keep Him off the cross. Don’t let anybody tell you that Satan’s agenda was to put Jesus on the cross. That was not his agenda. It was the opposite. He’s doing everything he can to keep Jesus off the cross because if Jesus goes to the cross, he’s restored to the lake of fire. If Jesus doesn’t go to the cross, he gets to own this planet, stay on this planet, and we go to the lake of fire. Everything is shifted and turned because of the act of Christ on him and on us. His purpose is to steal, kill, and destroy your life. He wants you here and he’s now furious because he knows now his destiny is here and so he’s going to take as many people with him as he can. So there’s an alteration of destiny for him. He was meant to be the most important being other than us inside heaven. He lost that and now his destiny has been brought back to its original intent because of the death of Jesus Christ.

Now I want you to look at Matthew 4. Matthew 4, we won't read all these verses, but Matthew 4:1 – 11. I want you to listen because this is critical.

¹Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Verse 3.

³The tempter came and said to Him,

Verse 5.

⁵Then the devil took Him to the holy city and set Him on the pinnacle and said to Him,

Verse 8.

⁸Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; ⁹and he said to Him,

¹⁰Then Jesus said to him,

There is, inside this, a conversation between Jesus and Satan. Now the reason I point this out; he's real. Now we live in an intellectual city and I get that. Jesus, the Bible says, had a physical conversation, a verbal talking with Satan. Where Satan spoke to Him; He spoke back to Satan. That conversation is the perfect proof we're not dealing with a force or a presence or an evil thought. We're dealing with an individual who is alive, he's eternal, he knows you, he knows everything about you, he knows the Bible better than you do, and he tempted Jesus. In other words, it was appealing to Jesus with what he was offering. That's the idea of temptation. Christ could have sinned, but He didn't. So he is real.

Now we're going to look at his demons here again in a couple weeks. But I want you to look at some of the things, the names that he's given. Obviously in Matthew 4:3 he's called the tempter. What that means is he is good at pulling you away from what God wants you to do. He's going to be able to persuade you. Look at Matthew 13:39. Slide over to Matthew 13. We're going to walk real quickly through this and then I want to make one point. Matthew 13:39. He says:

³⁹the enemy, who sowed them is the devil,

Again, he's called your enemy. He is not your friend. His beauty will make you think he's your friend. So you're going to have to understand he's not your friend. Not based on what you feel, but on what God says. Because what you feel will be enticing and tempting. Again, he's the god of this world. We saw that in John 12:31. He is the god of this world. So he owns this. Therefore, he is able to, let me say a couple things; we had a staff request, there's a woman's conference here, not one we're putting on, but it's being put on by some people in the community. They wanted to come over and pray over the rooms. So we said to them, "You can come and pray over the conference, but not over the rooms." Now why would I do that? If he's the god of this world, what people will do, they'll say, "We're going to pray over the rooms. We're going to pray that

Satan won't be in the room and won't be active." You can't do that. You can't pray him out of a building, you can't pray him out of a room, you can't pray him away from your family. This is his world until Jesus fixes it. It's still his. He is the god of this world. That's that point in Ephesians 2, even after the cross. This is his world. You cannot pray him out of rooms or out of pews or out of buildings or out of families. You can't do that. Secondly, because he's the god of this world, he's going to offer you pleasures from this world that will be substitute for what God would offer you in Christ and he can offer you what God would never offer you. And they can seem really effective. I read yesterday, I would never share this in a sermon, but I read yesterday the Silicon Valley tech people have, I mean the only word for it, they at least once or twice a month, have massive orgies. They have the rich guys coming in, I mean I'm not going to go into the details, but basically they're just massive orgies and these are some of our sharpest minds in the country that have created all the computer stuff you're doing. But they really have stepped into his pleasure world and he can offer things God would never offer. Now they're a substitute and they're going to bite you in the end, but he has an offer that God doesn't offer because he's the god of this world. He's going to offer pleasures in this world that are broken. And because he's beautiful, he can pull you into something and you need to be careful because you can't pray him away from your life. So it's not your prayer that's going to conquer him. We're going to look at that, and really we've already looked at some of it, but we'll look at that down the road. But this is his world.

Again 1 Peter 5:8, you don't need to turn there, he's the devil, like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. Again he's your adversary. Same word up here. You little English scholars; what's an adversative clause? Anybody know? It's a clause that's adverse to the previous clause. If I say I'm going to spend money, but I didn't, or I'm going to Magnolia to buy Shiplap, but I didn't, that second clause is adverse to the first clause. So he is adverse, he's an adversary in your life to everything God wants to do. And because he's beautiful, and because he's skilled, it's why you do what you do.

We're just going to look at a couple of these because I'm running out of time. Revelation 12:9 says three things about him. He's your deceiver, he's a dragon, he's a serpent. John 8:44: he's a liar and a murderer. He lies and he kills. So when you see all the murders going on all over the country, he's the source. All sorts of issues in all the, I love the media people, they wring their hands trying to figure out what to do. The only answer to whether or not people kill each other is Satan. He is the source of all murder. Revelation 12:10. We won't go there, but just jot this down. Here he's called the accuser of the brethren. This is why, I think one of the main reason why Jesus gave us the Lord's Supper. One of the best ways that he paralyzes you in your Christian walk is he will accuse you of being a horrible person and a bad Christian. At some point, if you're married, he's going to accuse you of being a crappy wife, a horrible mother. You get mad at your kid, you beat yourself up, "Man I can't believe I did that with my children." The reason you're beating yourself up is because you're listening to his accusations. It's not because you're a bad parent. We're all sinners but you're allowing his accusations to drive your life. It's why Jesus gave us the Lord's Supper, at least one of the reasons, so we can remind ourselves that we've been forgiven. It's an incredibly difficult thing we do. There was a guy, Mininger, who wrote a book that said if you could take the guilt out of people, that you could empty every insane asylum in the country. It's guilt that puts us there. He is the source of that guilt. And then he's called the evil one in 1 John 2.

So the bottom line; his purpose is to remove you from what God wants to do in your life. He is your adversary. He is real. He's really hacked because his destiny has been changed. You have a chance at having it altered. So he's coming after you deeply. He's gorgeous. He's smart. He's winsome. He's clever. Part of his beauty is, again, his emotions. He's going to be winsome, he's going to be easy to listen to, he's going to be kind, he's going to seem nice. The reason the Bible gives you all these words that he's a liar and a murderer and dragon and an accuser, the reason the Bible gives you all these, and that he's your enemy, is because when you deal with him, none of these are going to seem to be true. You're going to buy into his beauty.

I don't want any hands up, so let me just be a guilt-driving person today. But I don't want any hands up. But how many of you start and end your day with Facebook instead of starting and ending your day with The Book? Why? Because he's made you think that Facebook is a better way to start and end the day than God's word. Because he's good at what he does. And so he pulls you away. We have parents all over this church who don't discipline their children. What's the scripture say? It definitely speaks to the discipline of children. There are a ton of ways in which he pulls us and we yield to his beauty and his winsomeness and his brilliance and his wisdom and the reason all these names are given to you in the scripture is to constantly remind you; anything that moves you away from the wisdom in this Book is dangerous to you and it is going to bite you in the end. He cannot steal, kill, and destroy you if you don't partner with him. So it's your choice. But he is real. He does have an enemy. Now, again, the way he's going to work on you is through his demons which we'll look at probably next week. And then I'll look at his methods the week after that. How he pulls this into your life. But he's legit. He's real. Now they're not going to buy that at Texas A&M. They're not going to buy that at the University of Texas. They're not going to buy that at Harvard particularly because Harvard's where he sits.

Questions.

Q: The ruler of this world is cast out so he's not the ruler of this world?

A. No, he is still. He's still the ruler of this world right now. But that's going to change when Christ comes back. That's why he binds him for 1,000 years.

Q: But in John 12:31 where it says now the ruler of this world is cast out,

A. No. The reason he's cast out; his statement is at his death now his permanence as ruler is now removed. His destiny has been altered, but that does not occur until you come to the book of Revelation, you have Satan coming after the church, you have God binding him for 1,000 years, he loses him, he comes out, you have Armageddon, and then God places him in the lake of fire. So, yeah, but the destiny is altered. This is a prophetic statement; not a right now statement. Because he's still the god of this world. That would be the statement in Ephesians 2 when he says the course of the age is driven by the ruler of this age, which is Satan.

Q. What is the difference between an angel and a cherub?

A. I've got no clue. There are simply distinct beings. The Bible doesn't define what the distinctions are. *Ángelos*, for example, again here's another word that is not translated. The Greek word is, *ángelos*, *ἄγγελος*, so when you transliterate it, it's angel. We don't translate. If you translate it, it is simply messenger. That's the meaning of the Greek word. We don't translate it for some reason, I don't know why, so you have God's messengers. You have the cherubs who guard the mercy seat, they have certain roles, the seraphim, and then you have the four living beings in Revelation which are not defined either. They're in the throne room in chapters 4 and 5. Those are the only other beings mentioned. It could explain for me the immensity of the universe. There are other beings made, not just us. But no seraph, no cherub, no angel is ever spoken of in the image of God. We alone are. So we, and it doesn't say they will rule, the Bible says in 1 Corinthians we will judge angels. So all of these beings are below us in our importance. So there's a distinctiveness to us that is not to them. But to delineate their differences, the Bible doesn't do that.

Q. What's Gabriel look like to Mary?

A. They do take on human form. They can. We're going to look at that when we look at demons and angels. We'll look at them in one week. But they can take on human form. They can't sexually procreate, even though they can take on human form. That's pretty clear. But they can look like people. They do take on forms. This is the problem with reading the Old Testament. Generally, when they run into angels, they're terrified. There's this terrifying moment. So what they see, is obviously, even if he's in the form of a man, is horrifying and frightening. There's some presence to them that is just amazing. But that's for another Thursday.

Q. You said that we can't pray Satan out of a building. What about James 4:7 where it says:

⁷[Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee.](#)

A. But that's the whole key. It's not a prayer issue. If I surrender to the Father, then he flees from me temporarily because surrender is a daily thing. Surrender is actually a moment by moment thing. So my surrendering does cause him to flee, but I'm not allowed to kick him out. He's coming back. He fled Jesus, but he always came back. Jesus never prayed him out of a particular area. The problem is you have people today, particularly, and I love the charismatics, so don't take this in the wrong way, but the charismatics have a tendency to say, "Well let's pray him out of this room, let's pray him out of that room." You can't do that. That's nowhere in the scripture. If he flees because I have chosen to surrender myself to the Father, that's him. But he always returns. He left Christ; always came back. He left Christ; always came back.

Q. Hence the reason God tells you to put on the full armor?

A. Yeah and I think that's why Paul said, "I die daily." Because daily you've got to create a death. But even then, even when he leaves you temporarily, he always comes back. That's the problem. You can't ever get him out of there on a permanent level.

Q. If we are the only ones in the image of God and we are above the angels, then you think Satan is omniscient like God? He can read our minds?

A. Oh, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no. No. No. He is not omniscient. There are three characteristics of God: omniscience, omnipotence, omnipresence. Satan has none of those. That's why he has to have demons. He is spatial. If he's standing here, he's not in Hearne. So he's limited which is why he has demons. Now can he read your mind? Absolutely. Because he listens to you. I don't know where this idea came from because I've heard it all my life that he can't read your mind. That's nowhere in the scripture. If he can't read my mind he is the luckiest guesser, when I pray, of anybody I've ever known. Because he can manipulate my prayer life. He can tempt me away from what I'm praying. He can pull me back. He can oppress me in my prayers. He knows what I'm praying. In Ephesians 2 it says you have been sat down in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus. In the book of Job, it talks about him standing and coming into the presence of God. That's the correlative. You and I have access to a realm that he has access to. And there's no question he can read your mind. No question he knows what you pray. Whether you verbalize it or not, he hears it because he's there. If he's not there, he has demons that are there. They know exactly what you're praying. They know exactly what you're thinking. The temptation is always in your thought. And he's going to tempt you where you're struggling. If you, for example, if you're a mom and you bust your kid in a bad way, he's going to know when your mind's going, "I can't believe I did that." And he's immediately going to jump into this accusation thing. Because he knows where your mind is and he's going to start just beating you up over what you've done. So it paralyzes who you are in Christ. So absolutely. He's not omniscient, but he absolutely knows our minds.

Q. So all the angels can read our minds?

A. Yeah, I think they're in a realm that we access in our prayer life. Absolutely.

Q. So is a demon one of the fallen angels?

A. Yes, a demon is a fallen angel.

- Q.** If we can't pray Satan out of a room, can we pray the Holy Spirit in?
- A.** Oh, absolutely! You are going to pray for the Holy Spirit's conviction in a room. What you cannot do is remove his attack on that conviction. If you could remove the enemy, everybody'd be saved. You can't do that. We're at a war. I mean all kidding aside, we have an enemy who is permanent because this is his world. We gave it to him. The world was ours in Genesis 1. So we deeded it over to him. We gave it to him. It's his so I can't tell him to get out. It's like you coming in and telling me to get out of my living room. You can't do that. You can, but I'm going to ignore you. And so I can't tell him to get out of what is still his world. Until the end of time. Let me just say one thing. We're secure. No demon can inhabit us. But they can impact us which we'll look at when we deal with demons. Another word that is not translated in the New Testament. The Greek is, *daimonion*, δαιμόνιον, there are a ton of words that we don't translate. We just transliterate. And if you ask me why; I have no idea.
- Q.** What if Satan were to actually ask for forgiveness, not that that would happen, but what would happen if he did?
- A.** If Satan asked for forgiveness, he would be granted none. The gospel is never offered to him or his men. He understands the gospel, believes the gospel, that's why in the book of James it says, "The devils believe, but tremble." They tremble because they know there's no offer to them. Only we are offered because we're the only ones that were given the free will to make the choice. It's one of the main reasons I'm not a Calvinist on that basis.
- Q.** So the word bind, when we pray, I've prayed that all of my life as a Christian to bind Satan from a certain situation. We can't do that, yes/no?
- A.** No. We're going to look at that when we look at demons. You bind him in your own life. That's actually the metaphor that Jesus uses about binding and the strong man. You bind him in your own life so you can then be impacting for Christ. But we'll look at that when we look at demons.
- Q.** So when Jesus prayed, "Deliver us from evil."
- A.** I think he's saying deliver us from what Satan's purpose is in our life. And so you want God delivering you from that and the way He does that is through the things that He will teach you. It's also a general principle, deliver us from all the trash in this world, which He will do in Revelation 19 – 22. So it's a prophetic prayer and also a little bit of a deliverance prayer here.

Q. If he's just an individual and he isn't all powerful like God, how does he work his way into everyone's life.

A. Because he has 1/3 of heaven that fell with him. And so he has, the Bible calls, in Revelation, myriads upon myriads, which is basically millions upon millions. He has far more imps at his command than there are people in the world. That's why you have the guy in the New Testament who has a legion of angels over a thousand in him. One guy. So he has way more at his disposal than there are people here. We're constantly dying and leaving. Those guys stay. So we never outnumber them. Their number is static, ours is not.