

We Wrestle not Against Flesh and Blood (Part I)

1Peter 5:8-11 (Gospel Light and Our Adversary Satan - #1)

- Satan: a creature who IS NOT omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient, but IS our arch enemy, a fearful destroyer.

1. Gospel Light Exposes Satan Our Adversary (v.8)

- Gospel is the primary weapon against sin (1Pet.4:1,2,12, and 13).
- Be sober-minded and watchful.
- “Adversary” - legal connotation – Satan as the accuser (Job).
- Satan’s motivation: to discredit God’s word, destroy God’s work (Zech.3:1,2).
- Satan’s opposition to “offspring of woman” – in focus when he tempts Jesus.
- Jesus overcame/withstood Satan’s attacks, as a man dependant on the Holy Spirit and God’s Word; the cross was before Him (John 12:31, 32).
- Satan’s hatred against the Lord and His Kingdom has intensified after the cross.

1) Satan is a *subtle* adversary (“prowls”)

- Satan is crafty and has great stealth, like a serpent and lion (Job 1:7).
- We can only fight him with the Gospel armor (Eph. 6:11).
- Satan studies our weaknesses and strengths, and uses them to render us hopeless, faithless and useless in God’s kingdom.
- Satan ensnares us with false and blasphemous thoughts of God & exalted views of ourselves. (2 Cor. 10:3)
- He poses as an angel of light.

2) Satan is an *active* adversary (“devour”)

- He is accompanied by his host of depraved spirits, and they never stop attacking.
- Matt 12:43; Luke 22:52,53

3) Satan is a *cruel* adversary: knows no pity

4) Satan is a *powerful* adversary: Prov 30:30

- Consider Satan, evil and grotesque, in contrast to holy angels and justified saints.
- God’s gift: Ps. 16:11; John 10:10
- The only hope is the Gospel, Christ and Him crucified. 1 John 2:14