

## Behind Enemy Lines

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Series: Battle Ready

**Text: Isaiah 14:12-15, 1 Peter 5:8**

It is always a good thing before you go off to fight a war that you know something about the enemy you are fighting against.

~ Sun Tzu - *“If you **know** the **enemy** and **know** yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you **know** yourself but not the **enemy**, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you **know** neither the **enemy** nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle.”*

While this is a good quote and it is an excellent tactical truth, it leaves **God** out of the equation. **Daniel 11:32b, 2 Corinthians 2:11**

When dealing with spiritual things many people have an unhealthy fascination with the devil. While it is good to know about our enemy, it is even more important to **know** our God. One reason that many people are not walking in victory is they are fighting a devil they know and have studied without a personal and intimate **relationship** with God. They know about God the same way they know about the devil. A study on and about spiritual warfare is really for those who know their God; notice “**their**” God. We must be His and He must be ours. To walk in victory over our enemy we must be a **friend** of God. Jesus must be both our **Lord** and our Savior. **James 4:4 (AMP)**

### Understanding the origin of Satan and demons

Satan’s original name was Lucifer which means “Shining one” or “Son of the Morning”. Lucifer was one of the **cherubim** which are one of the highest order of angels. **Ezekiel 28:12b-14** None of God’s creation had been made to reflect His glory in this way. He was full of wisdom, he was **beautiful**, he was literally encrusted in jewels. He was also given everything he needed to bring worship and praise to God with **musical** abilities.

Angels are known as **sons** of God. They are supernatural and powerful. They are not a son of God in the same way that **Jesus** is, Jesus is God. Angles are a high order of God’s creation. They have powerful abilities, intellect and emotions and purposes. There are different orders and ranks of angels. The Bible only gives us brief glimpses of all of this. It is important when studying angles to not move past Biblical knowledge because then we go into the realm of mysticism and mythology.

Angels possess free will or the ability to **choose** just like we do. It is clear from the Word of God that the majority of angels choose to serve, worship and honor God. It is also clear from scripture that they are able to abandon their God given place and operate in ways that are contrary to God’s will.

This is what happened to Lucifer, he was perfect until **pride** was found in him.

**Ezekiel 28:15-19, Isaiah 14:12-15**

Satan's heart was captivated by pride. It was his proud heart that led to his **fall** and his ultimate destruction. **Proverbs 16:18** Remember, wisdom is still wisdom even before God inspired the written Word. His principles have always been true even before our creation.

~ CS Lewis – *The essential vice, the utmost evil is pride....it was through pride that the devil became the devil. Pride leads to every other vice. It is the complete anti-God state of mind.*

Satan desired God's place in heaven, His power, privilege, and majesty. Lucifer went from being the son of the morning to being known as the accuser and **adversary** of God. That is what Satan means, "Adversary of God". This is why that anyone who becomes a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Lucifer became Satan because of the sin of his own heart, and he was banished from Heaven. Jesus was there to witness this event. **Luke 10:17-19**

~ Augustine - *It was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men angels.*

Satan is known by many names in the Word of God and none of them are **flattering**. It is fashionable in popular culture to tone down, sanitize and even present the devil as a necessary evil or even as someone misunderstood but good. He is not cartoonish in any way. He is hatred personified, he is the embodiment of wickedness and there is no good found in him. He is a liar and the father of lies, when he speaks, lying is his native **language**.

**John 8:44 (NIV&AMP)**

Some names given to him - **liar** and the father of lies and a murderer, comes as an angel of light **2 Corinthians 11:14** the deceiver **Revelation 12:9** the destroyer **Revelation 9:11** the evil one **John 17:15** the prince of the power of the air **Ephesians 2:2** the ruler of this world **John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11** the serpent and the **dragon** **Genesis 3:13, Revelation 20:2** the tempter **Matthew 4:3**

All of the names of God describe Him in all His glory and as our Friend and Advocate. All the names of the devil describe him in all of his wickedness, evil and hatred for both us and God.

When Satan rebelled only one third of the angels in heaven rebelled with him. They now comprise his army that is in open rebellion against God. Satan is the head of his own kingdom. Several times the Bible calls him a **prince**. The prince of this world and the prince of the power of the air. He is in charge of evil spirits and evil men. The Bible says that people are held captive by him until they are delivered by the power of Salvation in Jesus Christ.

Satan's army is **organized**. **Ephesians 6:12** He has patterned his structure after the order of things in heaven. In heaven we learn of Cherubim and Seraphim, in Daniel there are princes like Michael. There are arch angels and messenger angels, angels that guard and protect, there are warrior angels.

The Bible breaks the spiritual hosts of wickedness into ranks. Principalities are the head officers, the powers are staff officers, the rulers are divisional commanders and the spiritual hosts of wickedness are the RANK and file ordinary privates and grunts. Like Satan, all of them have their place and specific **duties**. All of them have names and personalities.

Much unscriptural teaching about demons has caused harm to the body of Christ. Those in the occult and even those in Christianity have had an unhealthy obsession and curiosity about them. There are things we can learn about them in the Bible, but the Bible is a Revelation of God and His will, not a study for those who desire the mystical, the clever and the occult.

Satan is not God and he is not God's evil **opposite**. God has no equal anywhere. Satan is not all-knowing, he is not all-powerful, and he is not able to be everywhere at once. Satan is not all-powerful evil; in fact, he is no match for God. The devil is simply one of God's creation that was spoken into being just like the rest of us. Jesus will ultimately defeat the devil by simply the Word coming out of his mouth. **Revelation 19:15-16**

Satan is known as the god of this world – notice the intentional use of the little **g**.

**2 Corinthians 4:4**

The devil is the founder of his own religion and he has his own **church**. **Revelation 2:9,3:9**

He has set up his own gospel **Galatians 1:8**

He has his own ministers and his own **doctrine**. **2 Corinthians 11:15, 1 Timothy 4:1**

He even has his own type of communion table and **cup**. **1 Corinthians 10:20-21**

Satan does have **power** but he is not all-powerful. **2 Thessalonians 2:9** Satan operates in the supernatural realm. He is like a roaring lion. He is deceptive, destructive and seductive. He has his own armor, strongholds, strongmen and is the power behind the world's system.

**1 John 5:19** We need to remember that, as Christians, the **Greater** One lives inside of us.

**1 John 4:4**

Satan works through **deception** and manipulation. The devil pretends to be something that he is not. The devil hides in plain sight disguised and camouflaged. Religion is one of his favorite hiding spots, in poetry, entertainment, music and art, in psychology and in academia. Even in the subtle manipulation of scripture taken out of context he deceives with blatant error through even the tiniest of subtle changes.

Satan is the great **counterfeiter** and he imitates and mimics all that God does. Remember he said, "I shall be **like** God". Jesus is the Prince of Peace and Satan is the prince of this world. Jesus is the Light of the world; Satan **transforms** himself into an angel of light.

**2 Corinthians 11:14** Jesus is the Lion of the Tribe of Judah; Satan comes as a roaring lion.

Satan tries to do everything God does because he desires to be like God and he never can be.

That is like an ant thinking he is a mighty elephant.

One of Satan's strategies is to **divide** and conquer. He divided but not even by half the number of the angels in heaven. **Revelation 12:4** He pitted Adam against Eve and Cain against Able. He will divide peoples' **loyalties**. Jesus told His disciples that they cannot serve both God and mammon. Satan divides marriages, friendships, churches and nations. He does so through **doubt**, "did God really say". He divides through the poisons of gossip, suspicion, intolerance, hatred, jealousy and criticism. Satan knows that he cannot destroy God, so he seeks to destroy those that God **created** in His image. Satan is not only known as the deceiver but the **destroyer**.

**John 10:10, Revelation 9:11**

Satan is not alone in his spiritual attacks; those who follow him in the spiritual realm are known as **demons**. **Luke 7:21, Matthew 4:24, Mark 1:32, Mark 1:39**

God has given us authority over demons, it is part of our calling to bring **deliverance** to people who are harassed, oppressed, and possessed by them. **Luke 10:18-20, Mark 16:17-18**

Demons are rational beings; they are not diseases. It is important that we do not confuse what they do with who they are. Demons possess intellect, personality and they believe, **think**, hear and speak. **James 2:19**

Demons are Satan's servants. They are known as evil or **unclean** spirits. The Bible tells us that there are two types of demons the "fallen and free" and the "fallen and **imprisoned**".

There are fallen angels that today roam the earth and are causing the chaos, sin, and stress in our world. Jude speaks of the angels who did not keep their proper **domain** and are reserved in chains until the day of Judgement. **Jude 1:6, Psalm 82:1-8**

In the book of Genesis, we are introduced to angels that came to earth and created a half-angelic and half human **hybrid** called in the Biblical language 'Nephilim', or giants.

**Genesis 6:1-6** It was these hybrids that made the flood of Noah's day necessary. He was the only pure one in his generation. **Genesis 6:9-13** Many of the false god's worshiped from Egypt, Hinduism, Buddhism, the Norse Mythology and the Greek and Roman gods along with the Aztek, Mayan and Asian deities find their roots and similarities in the Nephilim.

The apocryphal book of Enoch which was studied by the early church and is quoted in the Bible (Jude 1:6, 14-15) says that these fallen angels also did genetic experiments with angelic animal hybrids and human animal hybrids. This would also explain dinosaurs and their extinction.

The word for sons of God is the word **Elohim**. This is a word to describe angels throughout the Old Testament. **Job 1:6, 2:1**

The early church and the book of Enoch teach that many of the demons and territorial spirits we deal with today are the **disembodied** spirits of these Nephilim. It is those fallen angels that violated the God given boundaries that so grieved God that He destroyed the entire earth and saved only eight people and put those fallen angels into the chains and darkness. **2 Peter 2:4-11**

Many people want to know when you are talking about the subject of demons if a Christian can be **possessed** or demonized. The answer is **NO**!

Demons are active in the world today. They can oppress, harass, attack, tempt and scare believers but they cannot possess what rightfully belongs to God. **1 Corinthians 6:19,**

**1 John 4:4** A demon is not able to enter or control a Christian because the Holy Spirit is more powerful than any demonic being including Satan himself.

Jesus warns us not to become fascinated with the fact that demons are subjected to us, they are not a **plaything**, they are the enemy. Jesus said that we are to rejoice that our names are written in the Lamb's book of life. It was because of Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension into Heaven that gave us and continues to give us the victory over not only Satan, but every demon and evil unclean spirit.