Unmasking Satan by Pastor Jarrod Davidoff - June 2, 2019

We all go through tremendous challenges in life. Most people try to solve these challenges or problems with natural solutions but don't know that there are also spiritual forces coming against them.

In order to understand our spiritual authority, we need to know who our enemy is and his origins.

That's why today I want to shed some light from the Word on who is initiating these attacks on your life.

As a teenager, I used to be a passionate tennis player and then became a coach. When your student is going to play another competitor, it's important for you to study the opponent, so you can give your student a strategy for beating that person and intel about their game.

It is important for us to know that we have a spiritual enemy that the Bible teaches us about called satan or the devil.

He is the arch enemy of God and all people. He is the one that instigates sin, war, crime, violence, sickness, disease, depression, oppression and possession.

He is evil to the core and is filled with hatred and violence towards God and us.

So satan's modus operandum is explained by Jesus in **John 10:10** The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

STEAL, KILL & DESTROY you

He comes to STEAL your:

Innocence

Joy

Childhood

Health

Finances

He comes to KILL your:

Dreams

Children

Wife/Husband

Family

He comes to DESTROY your:

Life

Body

Family

Business

Ministry

Investments

Community

As well as your community's social and moral fiber

Whatever God loves | satan hates

Whatever God values | satan despises

We see God's true heart from Scripture when Jesus speaks:

John 3:16-17 [16] For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. [17] For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Yet the opposite is also true: For satan so hates the world that he hates the Son of God and hates everyone who believes in the Son of God. For satan despises God, who sent His Son into the world to save the world and despises that people may be saved through Jesus.

Isaiah 14:12-17

[12] "How you are fallen from heaven,

O Lucifer, son of the morning!

How you are cut down to the ground,

You who weakened the nations!

[13] For you have said in your heart:

'I will ascend into heaven,

I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; (PRIDE)

I will also sit on the mount of the congregation

On the farthest sides of the north;

[14] I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,

I will be like the Most High.'

[15] Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, (HELL)

To the lowest depths of the Pit.

[16] "Those who see you will gaze at you,

And consider you, saying:

'Is this the man who made the earth tremble,

Who shook kingdoms,

[17] Who made the world as a wilderness

And destroyed its cities,

Who did not open the house of his prisoners?'

So to clarify, that was God talking about satan

Ezekiel 28:12-19 GOD ALSO SHEDS LIGHT ON SATAN'S ORIGINS

[12] "You *were* the seal of perfection, (GOD CREATED HIM FLAWLESS AND BEAUTIFUL)

Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

[13] You were in Eden, the garden of God;

Every precious stone *was* your covering:

The sardius, topaz, and diamond,

Beryl, onyx, and jasper,

Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold.

The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes (HIS VOICE WAS PERFECT – ANY OCTIVE)

Was prepared for you on the day you were created.

[14] "You *were* the anointed (**POWERFUL AND SPECIAL**) cherub (**ANGEL**) who covers;

I established you; (PUT IN POSITION OF AUTHORITY)

You were on the holy mountain of God; (HOLY AND PURE)

You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.

[15] You *were* perfect in your ways from the day you were created, (PERFECT IN EVERYTHING HE DID)

Till iniquity was found in you.

[16] "By the abundance of your trading (WORK)

You became filled with violence within,

And you sinned;

Therefore I cast you as a profane thing

Out of the mountain of God;

And I destroyed you, O covering cherub,

From the midst of the fiery stones.

[17] "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty;

You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor;

I cast you to the ground,

I laid you before kings,

That they might gaze at you.

[18] "You defiled your sanctuaries

By the multitude of your iniquities,

By the iniquity of your trading;

Therefore I brought fire from your midst;

It devoured you,

And I turned you to ashes upon the earth

In the sight of all who saw you.

[19] All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you;

You have become a horror,

And shall be no more forever."

Satan was originally the most beautiful angel, and many preachers say he was the worship leader in heaven. But pride entered his heart, and he wanted to be greater than God.

This reminds us of people today who think of themselves as greater than the Creator. Many mock and many even arrogantly deny His existence.

SATAN'S FIRST ATTACK ON MAN

He used deceptive tactics to undermine the goodness of God. He tricked Adam and Eve into thinking God was holding out on them.

HERE IS SATAN'S TRAP

1. He is a deceiver

What does deceive mean?

To cause you to accept as true or valid what is false or invalid.

To make someone believe something that is not true.

Let's read of the first encounter that man had with satan, once he was cast down to earth.

Genesis 3:1-5 [1] Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

[2] And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; [3] but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' "

[4] Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. [5] For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Satan questioned God's Word and challenged Eve by saying what God said is NOT true. In the same manner, he will challenge you and tell you that God's Word is not true.

He will get you to doubt God's goodness towards you.

He will whisper his thoughts into your mind and wait for you to make them your thoughts. And when you agree with him, they now become your thoughts.

Have you ever doubted God's goodness towards you?

He deceives you by saying to you that:

- God is going to let you down, so you need to fight for yourself

- God is not going to back you up

- God brings sickness into the world

- You will never find the right person if you wait for God's timing or His way of doing things, so you should compromise a little and it will all work out

- God was confused when He created you – He gave you the wrong identity

 God's promises aren't true for you – he gets you to question God's Word and not trust Him

You see, if you believe these lies of the enemy and believe God is NOT good, then you DON'T trust God and you cannot walk in the full authority that He has called you to.

The truth is that God IS good, He IS backing you up, and He HAS given you authority.

SO WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN THE ENEMY COMES TO DECEIVE YOU?

1. Choose to believe God's Word above all else and submit to Him.

2. Resist the devil.

James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Job 22:28 You will also declare a thing, and it will be established for you; so light will shine on your ways.

How? You say: "Satan I rebuke you, in Jesus name. I believe God's Word over my life. The blood of Jesus is against you. I plead the blood of Jesus over this situation."

ALTAR CALL:

If you have distrusted God's goodness and His promises over your life or you have been deceived by the devil, I would like to invite you to a place where you say I will believe Your Word, Lord, and I believe You are a good God. I want to walk in Your truth and in authority as You have called me to.

2. HE IS A TEMPTOR

Satan has had thousands of years practicing the art of temptation on mankind.

What is temptation? Temptation is when you are lured or enticed to do something you know you shouldn't do or something contrary to the Word of God.

Satan knows your weak points, and he will focus on them. Everyone is tempted differently. What is a huge temptation for some won't even touch others.

<u>Merriam Webster definition of temptation is -</u> lure, entice, inveigle, decoy, tempt, seduce mean to lead astray from one's true course.

lure implies a drawing into danger, evil, or difficulty through attracting and deceiving. *lured* naive investors with get-rich-quick schemes

entice suggests drawing by artful or adroit means.

inveigle implies enticing by cajoling or flattering.

decoy implies a luring into entrapment by artifice. attempting to *decoy* the enemy into an ambush

tempt implies the presenting of an attraction so strong that it overcomes the restraints of conscience or better judgment.

seduce implies a leading astray by persuasion or false promises.

A few areas of basic temptation:

<u>1. Money</u>

<u>2. Sex</u>

3. Power

<u>4. Fame</u>

<u>5. Pride</u>

<u>6. Jealousy</u>

Jesus was tempted

Luke 4:1-13 [1]Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, **[2]** being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.

[3] And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."

[4] But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.' "

[5]Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. **[6]** And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for *this* has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. **[7]** Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours."

[8] And Jesus answered and said to him, <u>"Get behind Me, Satan! For it is</u> written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

[9] Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. **[10]** For it is written:

'He shall give His angels charge over you,

To keep you,'

[11] and,

'In *their* hands they shall bear you up,

Lest you dash your foot against a stone.' "

[12] And Jesus answered and said to him, <u>"It has been said, 'You shall not</u> tempt the Lord your God.' "

[13] Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

Part of your spiritual authority is to use the Word of God against the devil when he tempts you.

3. HE IS A DESTROYER

In John 10:10, Jesus said that satan comes to steal, kill and destroy.

He does this through crimes, violence, war, famine, sickness and disease, accidents, and every evil vice.

Mark 4:35-41 [35] On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side." **[36]** Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him. **[37]** And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. **[38]** But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

[39] Then He arose and rebuked the wind (WHO DO YOU THINK SENT THE WINDS TO DROWN THEM?), and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. [40] But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How *is it* that you have no faith?" [41] And they

feared exceedingly, and said to one another, "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!"

Mark 5:1-5 [1] Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. [2] And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, [3] who had *his* dwelling <u>among the tombs</u> (IF HE LIVED BY THE TOMBS, AND HE WAS POSSESED WITH A LEGION OF DEMONS, THEN WHO TOLD HIM JESUS HAD JUST ARRIVED BY THE SEASHORE OR HARBOR?); and no one could bind him, not even with chains, [4] because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. [5] And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones.

Jesus used His authority to rebuke the devil and the attacks on His life.

KAYELITSHA SCHOOL INVASION

The STATE

Ephesians 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

You see, when satan was cast out of Heaven, he took with him a great number of angels, some say up to a third. These once glorious angels were deceived by satan into joining his grand rebellion. They were cast down to Earth and now operate as evil demons. Satan has rank and structure in his demonic army and kingdom. His demons rule over territories, cities, towns, villages, and nations.

These spiritual demons cause havoc in peoples lives and society. They attempt to break up families with fighting and infidelity. The cause children to be rude and rebellious. They fuel sexual immorality, drunkenness, violence, crimes, and wars.

That's why prayer and intercession are so powerful in coming against these demonic plans and strategies.

SO what to do

Ephesians 6:13-18

[13] Therefore <u>take up the whole armor of God</u>, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

[14] <u>Stand therefore</u>, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, [15] and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; [16] above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.
[17] And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; [18] praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit (tongues, your heavenly language), being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

USE YOUR AUTHORITY

Luke 10:18-20 [18] And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. [19] Behold, I give you the authority (SO WE HAVE IT AS JESUS GAVE IT) to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. [20] Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

<u>WE WIN</u>

Revelation 20:10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet *are.* And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.