

Identifying Our Real Enemy!

1 Peter 5:8-9; Ezekiel 28:11-17

East Berlin Community Church

Pastor Keith A. Mosebrook

October 8, 2017

Introduction

- Terrorist attack on September 11, 2001
- Comments on the mass killing with possible ISIS connection.
- Spiritual terroristic attacks
 - The “normal” Christian experience—1 Peter 2:11-12
 - The “world” hates us—John 15:18-21
 - Peter’s readers facing persecution—1 Peter 3:14
- Preparing for persecution:
 - First step: Declaring our allegiance to Christ. -- 1 Peter 3:15-16
 - Second step: Identifying our real enemy—1 Peter 5:8-9

Identifying our Real Enemy!

A. “We wrestle not against flesh and blood” —Ephesians 6:12

1. Temptation to think that problems are due to poor relational skills.
2. Evil men are only pawns in the hands of sinister spiritual powers.

B. Our real enemy is the DEVIL—1 Peter 5:8

1. The **Transformation** of our Enemy—Ezekiel 28:11-17
 - a. Most perfect being God ever created—Ezek. 28:13-15
 - b. Iniquity was found in him—Ezekiel 28:15
 - a. The sin of “PRIDE”
 - b. The “I wills” of Isaiah 14:13-14
2. The **Limitations** of our Enemy—‘NOT God’
3. The **Helpers** of our Enemy—the demons. Revelation 12:3, 9
4. The **Character** of our Enemy—1 Peter 5:8
 - a. As our “Adversary”, he prosecutes us before God’s court!
 - 1) The experience of Joshua—Zechariah 3:1-6
 - 2) The “accuser of the brethren”—Revelation 12:10
 - 3) Our defense attorney—Jesus Christ 1 John 2:1-2
 - b. As the “devil”, he malicious slanders, deceives, and murders.
 - 1) Jesus’ characterization of the devil—John 8:39-44
 - 2) The devil as a LIAR—2 Corinthians 4:3-4
 - 3) The devil as a MURDERER
 - c. As a “roaring lion”, he seeks to destroy us!
 - 1) The picture of a “roaring lion” in the Psalms describes the viciousness and relentlessness of the attack—Psalm 7, 10, 22
 - 2) The feeding of the big cats at the zoo
5. The **Defeat** of our Enemy
 - a. Met his “Waterloo” at the cross—Hebrews 2:14-15; Col. 2:15
 - b. We can be overcomers, not casualties or victims—1 John 5:4-5