

## **KNOW YOUR ENEMY**

**June 21, 2015**

**I Peter 5:1-14**

**“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” I Peter 5:8**

Satan is worshipped by some. Others deny his existence. Some deniers do so openly; others simply act as if he does not exist. They treat him as a fictional character; as an amusingly mischievous figment of human imagination. These are all deceived. Some may profess to be Christian, but their view of Satan denies what Christ believed and taught about him.

Peter gives strong warning regarding Satan. Taking his warning, we consider the tactics of Satan in four instances where he sought to prey upon humanity. The first of these was in two people who had not sinned: Adam and Eve. The second was the godliest man living: Job. The third was Jesus Christ, the absolutely righteous One. The fourth was one to whom Christ committed greatest privilege and responsibility in ministry: Peter. If these suffered satanic assault, none are exempt from his destructive efforts.

### **Adam & Eve (Genesis 3:1-7)**

Seduction – Satan utilized the most winning instrument: the serpent (1)

Questioned God’s Word (1)

Deception – Satan lied, misrepresenting God to man, contradicting God’s Word (4, 5)

Impugned God – assigned false motives to God (6)

(I Timothy 2:14; II Corinthians 11:3; Acts 5:1-11; John 8:44)

### **Job (Job 1:6-2:8)**

Accused Job unto God (1:9, 10; 2:4, 5; Romans 8:33, 34)

Afflicted Job because he was godly, seeking to humiliate God (1:11, 2:5)

Moved “against him to destroy him without cause” (2:3)

Sought by afflicting to turn Job against God (1:10, 11; 2:4, 5)

### **Jesus Christ (Matthew 4:1-11)**

Tempted when Jesus appeared most vulnerable: after 40 days without food (4:2)

Appealed Jesus His strongest appetite: hunger (4:3)

Disguised his temptation in “spiritual” garb: “He shall give his angels charge concerning thee” (4:6, quoting Psalm 91:11, 12) – Presumption

Appealed to human vanity: “All these things will I give thee” (4:8)

### **Peter**

Satan sought to capitalize upon Peter’s ignorance of God’s purpose (Matthew 16:21-23)

Satan sought to have Peter that he might “sift [him] as wheat” (Luke 22:31)

Satan utilized with the innate instincts and appetites of human existence

Self-confidence (Matthew 26:31-34)

Fatigue (Matthew 26:40-45)

Fear (Matthew 26:69-75)