

# Disciple's Quest

*If you continue in My word, then  
you are truly disciples of Mine.*

John 8:31

**Selected Texts**

**March 4, 2018**

## **Stand Firm**

### **A Scouting Report on the Enemy**

#### **Main Idea:**

Snatched from the devil's power and transferred into the Lord's kingdom at the moment of salvation, disciples of Jesus are marked out in this world as special enemies of wickedness. Their calling for living life in this reality is to STAND FIRM – to hold their ground against the devil's attacks so as to grow in sanctification and proclaim the saving message of the Gospel. Provision has been made for the disciples to STAND (see Ephesians 6:10-20). Taking stock in the enemy's objective, strengths and weaknesses will provide needful context and encouragement for taking up and putting on the armor of God to be ready to face the enemy and successfully resist his attacks.

#### **Outline:**

The Scouting Report – 7 things about the devil from God's Word that you need to know:

- 1) The devil's existence
- 2) The devil's origin and fall
- 3) The devil's objective
- 4) The devil's forces
- 5) The devil's limitations
- 6) The devil's defeat
- 7) The devil's future

### Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:

1) The Bible assumes the existence of the devil. In fact, Jesus Himself refers to Satan 25 times as a real and personal being! With that in mind, what possible conclusions can be reached about a professing Christian who refuses to accept the clear teaching of Scripture that the devil is real?

2) What is idolatry? (Hint: Consult Ex 20:3-5; Isaiah 42:8, etc.).

What (who) was/is the object of Satan's idolatry according to Isaiah 14:13-14?

Is self-idolatry a danger in our culture?

How can we personally guard against it?

3) What does Revelation 20 tell us about the devil's future?

#### Select helpful resources:

Dickason, C. Fred. *Angels Elect and Evil*. Chicago, Moody: 1975.

Grudem, Wayne A. *A Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine*. Leicester, England: Grand Rapids, Michigan: Inter-Varsity Press; Zondervan Pub. House, 2004.

Hoehner, Harold W. *Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic: 2002.

MacArthur, John, Author and General Editor. *The MacArthur Study Bible*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, Inc.; 1997, 2006.

