

Halloween 2021
“Our Friendly Foe”

One thing was clear in our last sermon series.

WE ARE AT WAR.... *BUT with who?*

Do you really think you are fighting against your spouse?

Do you really think those financial hits are coincidental? At the same time you are under conviction of giving more, or start Tithing?

Do you really believe that all these “medical conditions” are physiological or only “clinical” in nature??

On Today’s Halloween or *All Saints' Eve. (the night before All Saints Day)*

“Our Friendly Foe”

***1 Peter 5:8-9** NKJV

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

Opening Prayer

Sober: Clear headed - NOT Drunk or Intoxicated. - Being of “Sound Mind”.

Vigilant: observant, watchful, - On the LOOKOUT

“Your” Adversary: Enemy Grk: *antidikos*



Any foe, opponent, or enemy of God and his saints. The apostle Peter’s description of the devil as “your adversary” (1 Pt 5:8) has led to the use of this term “the Adversary” as a reference to Satan in literature and popular speech.

-Baker encyclopedia of the Bible

This is What the Devil Does... He is the ONE who is actively and continuously hostile toward YOU...

Tripping you up and then mocking you before God. Bring his accusations against YOU His “perfect” creation. *Slandering your name*

So if this is WHAT he does.... I believe we need to find out WHO he is..

This devil or accuser



Competitive Sports : Value in “Watching Tape” - studying the opponent - Strategy - One thing I can assure you..... Diabolos has been watching & studying YOU!!

***Is 14:12–14** NKJV

“How you are fallen from heaven,

O Lucifer, son of the morning! -*morning star*

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;

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.’

Lamentation for the king of Tyre

Ezekiel 28:11-19

**11 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 12
“Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and
say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD:**

“You were the seal of perfection,

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
Was prepared for you on the day you were created.**

**14 “You were the anointed cherub who covers;
I established you;
You were on the holy mountain of God;
You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.**

**15 You were perfect in your ways from the day you were
created,
Till iniquity was found in you.**

**16 “By the abundance of your trading
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.” ’ ”**

**We get another glance of our adversary & his minions as well
as a look at their end...**

***Revelations 12:7-11 NKJV**

And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, 8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. 9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

Satan and 1/3 of angelic hosts who once stood before the Divine Counsel of God... was filled w/ PRIDE.

He and what would become his demonic entourage, are eventually expelled from the “divine council”.

In retaliation, he transitions from accuser to pursuer, going beyond mere accusations to attempting to inflict physical harm.

Lastly, I want to cover his tactics, techniques, & strategies. Let's “Watch the Tape”

1 John 2:15-17

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world—*the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life*—is not of the Father but is of the world. **17** And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

3 AREAS we are to guard our hearts... The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, & the pride of life.... Associated with the LOVE of the WORLD.

Let's take a look at what this would look like practically...

***Genesis 3:1-7** NKJV

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.”

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was *good for food,* that it was *pleasant to the eyes,* and a tree *desirable to make one wise,* she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

Good for FOOD - Lust of the FLESH

Pleasant to the EYES - Lust of the EYES

Desirable to make one WISE - PRIDE of LIFE

Lust of the FLESH

Desires that arise from the fact that we are earth-bound, fleshly creatures are not sins in themselves. We desire food, water, shelter, sex, and comfort. God created us with those desires.

However, we are born sinful, desiring to please ourselves, regardless of God’s moral law

Romans 3:10, 12 ESV

10 as it is written:

“None is righteous, no, not one;

12 All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;

no one does good,
not even one.”

When fleshly desires rule over us, ... when it takes priority over God’s will, they cause us to violate God’s righteousness. They become lusts.

Hunger isn't SIN. But when hunger surpasses “eating to live”, when it becomes a lust... it turns into GLUTTONY we begin to “Live to Eat”.

When our Natural - physiological desires for intimacy become perverse, it can lead to adultery, fornicatuion, homosexuality, & ADDICTIONS. All ways we find to numb the pain and perhaps, do for ourselves what we may “*feel*” God isn't doing for us...

We want to satisfy our own carnal pleasures, even in violation to God’s creative order.

But Paul tells us in

***Romans 8:12-14** ESV

12 So then, brothers,⁵ we are debtors, ^cnot to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you ^dput to death the deeds of

the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

What or Who has been leading you?

Hard to see the light when you're in the valley.

If you're online..... Would you stand up & stretch your hand towards the screen?? If you are here this morning & you are ready to surrender a lust in the FLESH, Come to the altar & let me pray for you.

The New King James Version. (1982). (1 Pe 5:8–9). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Elwell, W. A., & Beitzel, B. J. (1988). Adversary. In Baker encyclopedia of the Bible (Vol. 1, p. 34). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.

The New King James Version. (1982). (Is 14:12–14). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

The New King James Version. (1982). (Eze 28:11–19). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

The New King James Version. (1982). (Re 12:7–11). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., ... Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). Faithlife Study Bible (Re 12:8). Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.

The New King James Version. (1982). (Ge 3:1–7). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

The New King James Version. (1982). (1 Jn 2:15–17). Nashville: Thomas Nelson