



Knowing the Enemy

November 4, 2018

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And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the Evil One.

Matthew 6:13 (NIV)

**“There is no neutral ground in the universe;
every square inch, every split second,
is claimed by God and counter-claimed by Satan.”**

C. S. Lewis

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Ephesians 6:10–13 (NIV)

SO, WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT SATAN, THE EVIL ONE?

1. He is _____.

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.

Ephesians 6:11 (NIV)

2. He does not _____.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)

3. He is _____.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)

2 Kings 6:12–17 (NIV)

*“None of us, my lord the king,” said one of his officers, “but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom.” “Go, find out where he is,” the king ordered, “so I can send men and capture him.” The report came back: “He is in Dothan.” Then he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They went by night and surrounded the city. When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked. “Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. **“Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”** And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.*

You . . . are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

1 John 4:4 (NIV)

HOW DO WE KNOW THAT SATAN IS A DEFEATED FOE?

1. His power is _____.

- He is not a god, but a created being.
- He is powerful, but not omnipotent.
- He is crafty, but not omniscient.
- He is not a god, so he is not omnipresent.

How do you protect yourself against his schemes?

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

Ephesians 6:10 (NIV)

- “Strong” in Greek means “envelop.”
- “Envelop” yourself in the Lord.

2. He has been humiliatingly _____.

1 Samuel 17—David and Goliath (NIV)

“Choose a man and have him come down to me. If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.” Then the Philistine said, “This day I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other.”

David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will hand you over to me, and I’ll strike you down . . . and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord’s, and he will give all of you into our hands.”

What does the David and Goliath story have to do with spiritual warfare?

- Israel represents the people of God.
- The Philistines represent the enemy of God’s people.
- When David defeated Goliath by the power of God, everyone knew that the Philistines were a defeated foe.

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.

1 John 3:8 (NIV)

Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself. He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

John 12:31–33 (NIV)

To the world, Jesus on the cross = FAILURE
Jesus knew the cross = VICTORY

He forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

UNDERSTAND THIS: Satan is a defeated foe. He cannot make you do anything. What he can do and what he does is lie to you. If you believe his lies, that is when you are trapped.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Jesus is Satan's kryptonite. When you are in Christ, Satan cannot touch you unless you let him in.
- If you are in Christ and under attack, call on the name of Jesus, and Satan and his demons must flee.
- Pray for protection and deliverance.

“God, send Michael the archangel to defend me in battle and be my protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. God, rebuke him is my humble prayer. And may he, the prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all evil spirits who prowl throughout the earth seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.”

Want to know more about Michael the archangel? See Jude 9; Daniel 10:13,21; Daniel 12:1; Revelation 12:7.

Sources: “For Thine is the Kingdom” by Adam Hamilton. *When the Game Is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box* by John Ortberg.