

I Peter 5:8-13 Spiritual War



- The Devil was in heaven, created by God
- Only when he started in heaven he was a good angel
- But pride entered Satan and he thought he could overthrow God
- Satan also deceived $\frac{1}{3}$ of the angels to follow him



- When a person becomes a Christian, he becomes an enemy of Satan
- And Satan does everything that he can to destroy the Christian
- He does everything he can to tempt the Christian to sin



I. Be Self-Controlled and Alert Vs. 8

**Be self controlled
and alert**

your enemy the devil prowls
around like a roaring lion
looking for someone to devour

**Resist him
standing firm in the faith**

1 peter 5:8-9



- When a person becomes a Christian he is a part of
God's family
 - Also a part of God's kingdom
 - God is our Father and our King



- You might ask, why didn't God just kill Satan?
- Why didn't God lock Satan up?
- I don't know why, but God allows Satan to live and be active in the world
- Satan can not do whatever he wants to do

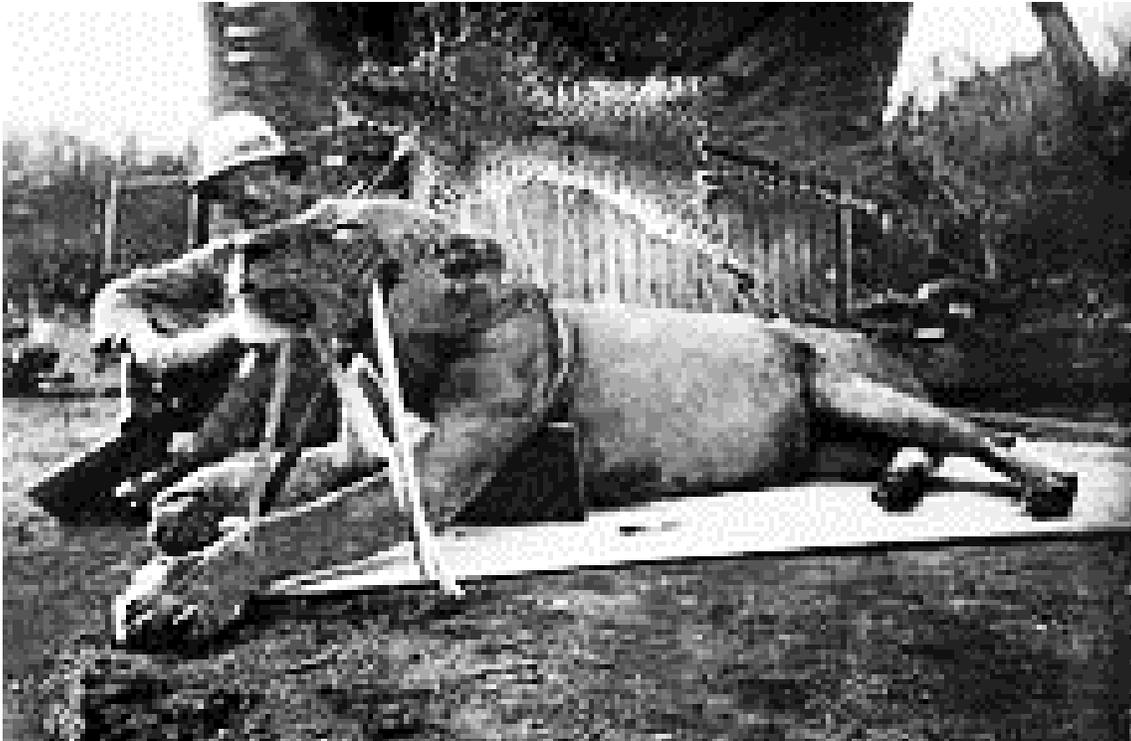


An example from the New Testament is when Jesus said to Peter

“Satan demanded to have you that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith might not fail” Luke 22:31,32



A man eating lion is no match for a man
There is a story of the Kenyan Tsavo man eating lions in
1898. It was made into a movie “The Ghost and the
Darkness”



- The thing about a lion, they roar to strike fear in their prey
- That's what Satan wants to do, strike fear in you
- But God is with you and gives you the tools to resist Satan



- We are to be *self-controlled and alert*
- When I go deer hunting, I change into a different person
- I enter the woods quietly, I make very little noise
- When I see a deer, they are always alert
- Deer are very cautious and won't go where there is noise



- With Satan, we aren't hunting for him
- Satan is hunting for us and wants to destroy us
- So you need to be **self-controlled**



- In your Christian life, you don't do whatever you want to do. You live according to the Word of God
- You don't willfully sin and when you do sin, you confess
- You seek the Lord in prayer



- And you are also **alert**
- Satan wants to tempt you to sin to be ineffective
- Be watching for those temptations
- You know where you are weak spiritually



II. Resist and Stand Firm Vs. 9



- James 4:7 *Resist the devil and he will flee from you*
- You do not give in to Satan's temptations
- If you are a Christian, you are part of the resistance
- Don't give in to sin, don't think about sin



- If you continue to sin, it will lead to more sin
- And you will be moving away from God's kingdom
- Resist, just say no to sin!
- Part of resisting is to know your Bible



The apostle Paul gives a picture of the Christian fighting Satan. Ephesians 6:10-18

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.

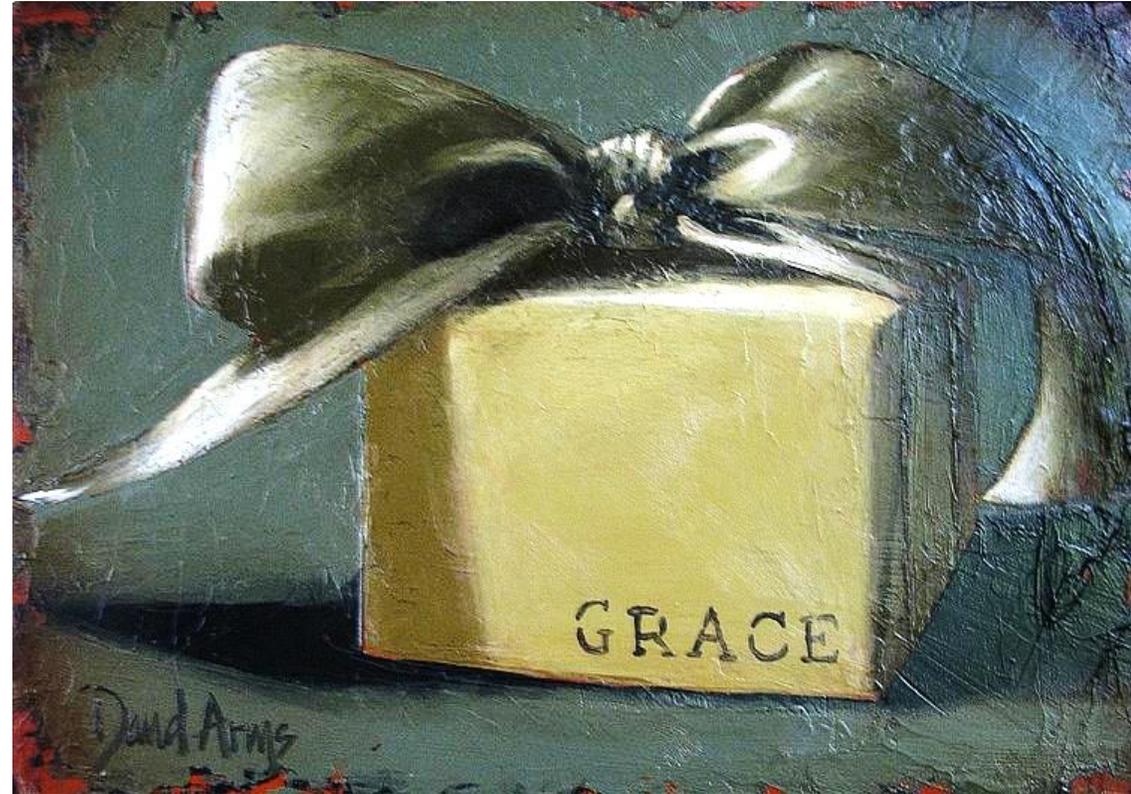
Therefore put on the **full armor of God**, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to **stand** your ground, and after you have done everything, to **stand**.

Stand firm then, with the **belt of truth** buckled around your waist, with the **breastplate of righteousness** in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the **gospel of peace**. In addition to all this, take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the **helmet of salvation** and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the **word of God**. And **pray in the Spirit** on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

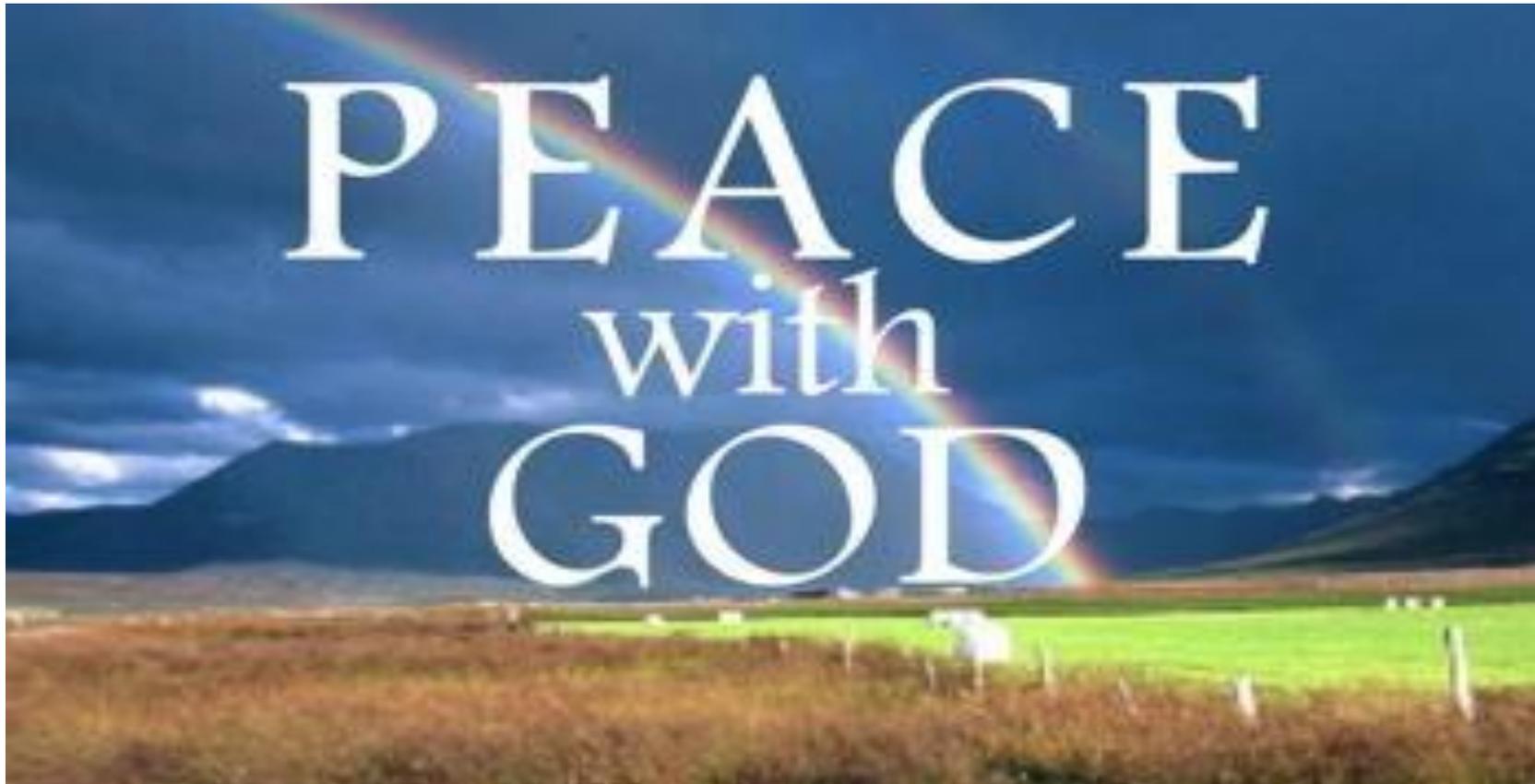
III. The God of all Grace Vss. 10-14



- Grace is a gift that we don't deserve, it's unmerited
- And God calls out to all to receive eternal life
- The God who calls you to salvation is with you
- And whatever suffering we do on this earth is temporary



Peace to all who are in Christ
And so ends our series in I Peter



Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.

Practiquen el dominio propio y manténganse alerta. Su enemigo el diablo ronda como león rugiente, buscando a quién devorar

Mwe na kiasi na kukesha; kwa kuwa mshitaki wenu Ibilisi, kama simba angurumaye, huzunguka-zunguka, akitafuta mtu ammeze.

务要谨守，警醒。因为你们的仇敌魔鬼，如同吼叫的狮子，遍地游行，寻找可吞吃的人

Ẹ máa wà ni àìrékojá, ẹ máa şóra; nítorí èşù òtá yín, bí i kìnniún tí ń ké ramúramù, ó ń rìn káàkiri, ó ń wa ẹnì tí yóò pajẹ.

Curee ko'e moodon, njoodoodon on ciryii. Ganyo moodon Ceydan e mo woosoo bo sembindu bernundu e mo dabbitsa mo o halkata

I Peter 5:8-13 Spiritual War

We will be talking about the spiritual enemy of Christians today
I don't know what you think of when you hear about Satan
Or the Devil

Every culture has some idea of the an evil spirit
The Devil was in heaven, created by God
Only when he started in heaven he was a good angel
But pride entered Satan and he thought he could overthrow God
Satan also deceived 1/3 of the angels to follow him
So God threw Satan and these demons out of heaven
Satan then tempted the 1st couple Adam and Eve to sin
Satan and the demons have been tempting people to sin
ever since that time

When a person becomes a Christian, he becomes an enemy of Satan
And Satan does everything that he can to destroy the Christian
He does everything he can to tempt the Christian to sin
And therefore become an ineffective Christian
Peter gives us some weapons to fight Satan

I. Be Self-Controlled and Alert Vs. 8

When a person becomes a Christian he is a part of God's family
Also a part of God's kingdom
God is our Father and our King
And Satan doesn't like that because the Christian's life is in God's hands
So Satan does whatever he can to destroy the Christian
It's a spiritual battle

You might ask, why didn't God just kill Satan?

Why didn't God lock Satan up?

I don't know why, but God allows Satan to live and be active in the world
Satan can not do whatever he wants to do
Satan is controlled by God-the book of Job

An example from the New Testament is when Jesus said to Peter
*"Satan demanded to have you that he might sift you like wheat,
but I have prayed for you that your faith might not fail"* Luke 22:31,32
Satan wanted to separate Peter from his faith in Jesus
But Jesus prayed for Peter and prevented that from happening
Peter says that Satan is a roaring lion looking for someone to devour

A man eating lion is no match for a man
There is a story of the Kenyan Tsavo man eating lions in 1898
It was made into a movie, The Ghost and the Darkness
The 2 names for the man eating lions
They were building a railroad bridge over a river and workers
were being killed and eaten by 2 maneless male lions
The estimates go as high as 135 workers killed
Eventually, both lions were killed
The thing about a lion, they roar to strike fear in their prey
That's what Satan wants to do, strike fear in you
But God is with you and gives you the tools to resist Satan
We are to be ***self-controlled and alert***
When I go deer hunting, I change into a different person
I enter the woods quietly, I make very little noise
I am also alert for any sound around me
And as I sit and wait for the deer to come to me on the trail
I am watching for any movement
I listen for any sound and I don't make any sudden movements
When I see a deer, they are always alert
Deer are very cautious and won't go where there is noise
When deer hear the sound and they stop eating and look
Deer look for any movement because they are the hunted
With Satan, we aren't hunting for him
Satan is hunting for us and wants to destroy us
So you need to be ***self-controlled***
In your Christian life, you don't do whatever you want to do
You live according to the Word of God
You don't willfully sin and when you do sin, you confess
You seek the Lord in prayer
You ask the Lord to help you live a pleasing life
You get to know God better in the Bible
You meet together with other Christians and fellowship
And you are also ***alert***
Satan wants to tempt you to sin to be ineffective
Be watching for those temptations
You know where you are weak spiritually
And Satan will attack you where you are weak

Don't put yourself in situations where you could sin
There are times that I come home and I am tired and I just
want to relax. I turn on the TV and start watching something
And I have to be alert even then so I don't let bad shows
come my way

Be alert, be self-controlled

You are the hunted but you are not defeated

II. Resist and Stand Firm Vs. 9

The Bible doesn't tell us to go after Satan

But it does say that we are to resist Satan

James 4:7 *Resist the devil and he will flee from you*

You do not give in to Satan's temptations

If you are a Christian, you are part of the resistance

Don't give in to sin, don't think about sin

Because when you have committed sin, you have decided to follow

Satan's lies. Satan's lies are this sin will be fun

This sin will feel good, this sin will be good for you

You like this sin, don't you? Go ahead and do it

No one will ever see, no one really cares, it won't hurt anyone

You do what is best for you

If you continue to sin, it will lead to more sin

And you will be moving away from God's kingdom

Resist, just say no to sin!

Part of resisting is to know your Bible

You have to know what the Bible says about that sin

If you are tempted to steal, remember the verse, "do not steal"

Instead of stealing, give generously to those in need

You get the idea, don't give in to the temptation to sin

Also, stand firm

This has the idea of a soldier that doesn't run, but stands his ground

He has all the weapons to defeat the enemy, he just has to use them

The apostle Paul gives a picture of the Christian fighting Satan

Ephesians 6:10-18

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11** Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. **12** 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. **13** 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. **14** Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, **15** and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. **16** In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17** Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **18** And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Christians fight a spiritual battle, do you know that?

We have many defensive weapons to protect us

And we have the Word of God and prayer to fight back

Have you been in the battle lately?

III. The God of all Grace Vss. 10-14

God is a God of grace

Grace is a gift that we don't deserve, it's unmerited

And God calls out to all to receive eternal life

The God who calls you to salvation is with you

And whatever suffering we do on this earth is temporary

God the Father has a special presence with those who suffer

He will restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast

And when you overcome suffering, the glory goes to God

Silas was the secretary for Peter

This is most likely the same Silas that was with Paul

Peter was picking up the pen at this point and writing

This was a letter of encouragement

Stand fast, don't give up

The church is She who is in Babylon

Babylon was most likely the church in Rome

Peter was using a cover name so they wouldn't be found

out by the Roman government

Peter was writing from Rome at the end of his life

In a short while he would hang upside down on a cross

Mark wrote the gospel of Mark with the help of Peter

Peace to all who are in Christ

And so ends our series in I Peter