

***The Unseen***  
*August, 2022*  
***The Basics on Unseen War***  
***Our Enemy: The Satan***

In **The Divine Intruder (2000)**, James R. Edwards recounts this story:

**Wilmer McLean** was a small farmer in the Shenandoah Valley in 1861. In the spring of that year two powerful armies met on his property—the Union army under General McDowell and the Confederate army under General Beauregard (60,000 troops). The bloodiest war in American history began at **Bull Run** (the first major battle of the American Civil War. (Thomas Jackson—"Stonewall Jackson:)) The battle was fought on July 21, 1861, in Prince William County, Virginia, just north of the city of Manassas and about 30 miles west-southwest of Washington, D.C.), a creek that ran through McLean's property. McLean was not at all sure why the armies were fighting, but he was quite sure he did not want them fighting on his property. If he could not change the course of the war, he at least did not have to be part of it. McLean decided to sell out and go where the war would never find him.

He chose the most obscure place in the whole country—or so he thought: an old house in the **village of Appomattox Court House, Virginia**. Four years later General Grant was pursuing General Lee through **Virginia. In Appomattox County**, Grant sent a message to Lee asking him to meet and sign a truce. **The place where they met to sign the peace that ended the Civil War was Wilmer McLean's living room!** Some things you cannot get away from.

**We are Involved in a cosmic conflict with Eternal Implications.**

**2 Corinthians 4:4 (NIV)**

4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

**Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)**

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.

***Story of the Exorcist Movie, 1973***

**Our foe, Satan, is formidable and his goal is to destroy us and discredit the cause of Christ.**

**1 Peter 5:8 (NIV)**

8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

**Jude 9 (NIV)**

9 But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

## 1. Origin

### Who is The Satan?

*Mentioned 28 times in NT, 25 by Jesus*

*A created spirit—Colossians 1:16, Job 1:3*

*An angel—Matthew 25:41, Revelation 12:7*

*A Cherub—Ezekiel 28:14*

*Highest of all created beings—Ezekiel 28:14, Jude 9*

### Where did he come from?

*Created perfect—Ezekiel 28:12-13*

*Had heavenly estate—Jude 9*

*Guardian of God's glory—Ezekiel 28*

*Occasion of his sin=power and beauty—Ezekiel 28*

*Nature of his sin=Pride—1 Timothy 3:6, Isaiah 14:13*

*Cause of his sin=personal free choice—Habakkuk 1:13, James 1:13*

Important because of the existence of Evil. "Only the Bible explains how evil originated and gives some hints as to why God would permit an evil world. The moral problem in the Bible is related to 3 major events: 1. the fall of angels into sin, 2. the fall of man into sin, and 3. the death of Christ as the sin bearer." Lewis Perry Chafer, Systematic Theology. v I., p 289.

## 2. Strategies

- a. STEAL, KILL, DESTROY—John 10
- b. Lies John 8:44- Eden - The Word John 8:44 More on this next week.
- c. Tempter - Nemo - Holy Spirit & Accountability
  - i. James 1:13-14
- d. Accuser - The Court - Identity Rev 12:10
  - i. What have you believed about Yourself
  - ii. What has been said or implied about you

***Satan's Titles reveal his tactics. He is never named! "The Satan"***  
***The Hebrew word שָׂטָן (satan) means to oppose, obstruct, or accuse. The Greek term (σατάν, satan) literally means "adversary."***

Called **Abaddon**, Rev. 9:11; **accuser of our brethren**, Rev. 12:10; **adversary**, 1 Pet. 5:8; **angel of the bottomless pit**, Rev. 9:11; **Apollyon (destroyer)**, Rev. 9:11; **Beelzebub**, Matt. 12:24; Mark 3:22; Luke 11:15; **Belial**, 2 Cor. 6:15; **the devil**, Matt. 4:1; Luke 4:2, 6; Rev. 20:2; **enemy**, Matt. 13:39; **evil spirit**, 1 Sam. 16:14; **father of lies**, John 8:44; **gates of hell**, Matt. 16:18; **great red dragon**, Rev. 12:3; **liar**, John 8:44; **lying spirit**, 1 Kin. 22:22; **murderer**, John 8:44; **old serpent**, Rev. 12:9; 20:2; **power of darkness**, Col. 1:13; **prince of this world**, John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; of

devils, Matt. 12:24; **of the power of the air**, Eph. 2:2; **ruler of the darkness of this world**, Eph. 6:12; **The Satan**, 1 Chr. 21:1; Job 1:6; John 13:27; Acts 5:3; 26:18; Rom. 16:20; serpent, Gen. 3:4, 14; 2 Cor. 11:3; spirit that works in the children of disobedience, Eph. 2:2; **tempter**, Matt. 4:3; 1 Thess. 3:5; **the god of this world**, 2 Cor. 4:4; **unclean spirit**, Matt. 12:43; **wicked one**, Matt. 13:19,

## **We must become aware of Satan's schemes**

2 Cor 2:11 in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

**I fear 2 reactions for us from this section. One is to try and ignore it and stay ignorant.**

**The second reaction** would be to begin to become obsessed with Satan's existence and begin to look for demons in every situation. Sickness, bad moods, crowded malls, traffic. Satan is doing this or that...REMEMBER WE ARE TO STAND AGAINST AND RESIST, NOT ATTACK!  
Run hard after Christ and begin to trust God's Spirit in you as He directs and teaches you.

2 Peter 2:10-11-- Bold and arrogant, these men are not afraid to slander celestial beings; <sup>11</sup>yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not bring slanderous accusations against such beings in the presence of the Lord. <sup>12</sup>But these men blaspheme in matters they do not understand.

### ***Satan's attack on God's people***

***Directing Gov—Daniel 10:13***

***Deceiving men—2 Cor 4:4***

***Destroying life—Heb 2:14***

***Persecuting the saints—rev 2:10***

***Preventing service—1 Thes 2:18***

***Promoting schisms—2 Cor 2:10-11***

***Planting doubt—Gen 3:1-2***

***Provoking sin***

***Anger—Eph 4:26-27***

***Pride—1 Tim 3:6***

***Worry—Matt 13:22***

***Self-reliance—1 Chron 21:1***

***Discouragement—1 Peter 5:5-6***

***Worldliness—1 John 2:16***

***Lying—Acts 5:3***

***Immorality—1 Cor 5:1-2***

***(also said in Scripture to cause false philosophies, religions, ministers, doctrine, disciples and morals)***

### 3. **Resist** (James 4:7)

- a. Not fear but awake-ex from book Wizard of Oz (filled with fear)
- b. The Word—pilot dependence on instruments. Can't trust heart
- c. The Holy Spirit-seal, advocate, cry Abba
- d. The community-safety in the pack.

#### ***Satan's power is huge, but limited***

*He is created, therefore not omniscient or infinite*

*He can be resisted by the Christian—James 4:7*

*God places limitations on him—Job 1:12*

#### 1. **He is a Conquered Enemy.**

That is, so far as the believer is concerned; **John 12:31**; 16:9, 10; 1 John 3:8; Col. 2:15.

#### 2. **He is Under a Perpetual Curse.**

**Gen. 3:14**, cf. Isa. 65:25. There is no removal of the curse from Satan.

#### 3. **He is Finally to Be Cast Alive into the Lake of Fire, There to Be Tormented forever and Ever.**

Matt. 25:41; **Rev. 20:10**—“And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”

#### **4. As believers in Jesus Christ, we do not fight for victory, but from victory!!**

##### **Satan is a defeated foe.**

**Colossians 1:13** (NIV)

13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,

**John 12:31** (NIV)

31 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out.

##### **Jesus destroyed the work of the devil**

**Colossians 2:13-15** (NIV)

13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,

14 having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.

15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

## **We are victors in Christ**

### **1 Corinthians 15:55-57** (NIV)

55 “Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **4 Keys to Victory over Satan**

### **1. You must have a personal relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ.**

Ephesians 6:10a “...in the Lord...”

Ephesians 6:10b “...in His mighty power...”

### **John 1:11-13** (NIV)

11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

What must you believe to be saved?

That you are a sinner in need of a savior. Romans 3:23

That Christ came and lived, died on the cross for your sins and rose on the third day as payment for those sins.

You must put your trust in that death and resurrection as the payment so that you can have a relationship with God through Christ.

**Acts 19:14** *Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. 15 One day the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?” 16 Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding. NIV*

### **2. You must cooperate and submit to the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit**

1. Filling of HS has 3 conditions: 1. Quench not the Spirit (1 Thes 5:19-do not actively work against the Spirit’s movement)

2. Grieve not the Holy Spirit... (Eph 4:30-context is to grieve the Spirit by willful sin against God’s people), and

3. walk in the Spirit. (Gal 5:16)

<i><b>The Holy Spirit's Work</b></i>	<i><b>Satan's Work</b></i>
Is always specific about your sin and what is keeping you from fellowship with God	Is usually general in accusations against your character and your unworthiness
Seeks to show you that your infinite worth and value to God make Him desire your fellowship	Seeks to convince you that you are so bad God wouldn't want to have anything to do with you
Seeks to show you that there is forgiveness and restoration available no matter how bad your sin.	Seeks to convince you that there is no forgiveness for you. You've committed the unpardonable sin.
Uses God's Word to give you hope and assurance of God's love and forgiveness.	Uses God's Word out of context to convince you that there is no hope for you
Builds faith, hope and love in your heart and increases your confidence and assurance of salvation.	Creates despair, doubt, resentment, discouragement, and anger toward God, His Word, and His people. You feel that no one as bad as you could ever really be saved.

**We are all indwelt by the Holy Spirit.** Romans 8:9 Our bodies are the temple of God's Holy Spirit—1 Corinthians 6:19-20

### ***3. You must put on the Whole Armor of God***

We will talk about this in a couple of weeks.

The required equipment for the battle we are in

### ***4. You must be engaged in the Resource and Power of Prayer in the name of Jesus***

**Ephesians 6:18**—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

There is no way to appropriate the power of the Union with Christ apart from prayer. The Holy Spirit will not intrude or force His way into our lives, but waits to be invited in to demonstrate His power through us.

Remember the context is that we are to be “filled with the Holy Spirit” (Eph 5:18)

## **We have the power to resist Satan and demonic attacks**

### **1 John 4:4 (NIV)**

4 You, dear children, 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 5:4-5 (NIV)**

4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

### **Revelation 12:11 (NIV)**

11 They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much

as to shrink from death.

### **James 4:7 (NIV)**

7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

### **Advantage to having an adversary:**

I heard [a story] about attempts to ship fresh North Atlantic cod from Boston to San Francisco during the nineteenth century. At that time the only way to ship the fish to the West Coast was to sail around the South American continent—a trip that took months. As you can imagine, the first attempts to dress the cod in Boston and pack them in ice failed miserably. By the time they reached California, the fish weren't exactly fit for consumption.

Next, the cod were placed in holding tanks full of water, shipped to California alive, and dressed there. The results were less than satisfactory. The fish didn't get much exercise during the trip, and as a result they were pasty and relatively tasteless.

Finally, someone hit upon an interesting idea. "Why don't we put some catfish in with the cod?" Why? Because catfish are cods' natural enemy. Sure enough, when a few catfish were placed in those tanks with them, the cod were always alert and swimming around. This time, when the fish reached San Francisco, they were in perfect shape.

## **Spoken Piece**

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/4eGiEhMzeHnLHFZsCh8dJ4?si=IUQ6mCVFQyOM3loWPjBNow>

## **Song: I speak Jesus**

Make my notes available for people to have the references?

How to best do this?