

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## KNOWING YOUR ADVERSARY

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### PART 1: WHO IS THE DEVIL?

A few weeks ago I was notified that the wife of my friend Ted Pike had died through suicide. After I read the account of her death on his website, I placed a phone call to Ted and spoke briefly with him. Several people in our ministry read his report and expressed shock and dismay. I also received questions from overseas. It's now been a couple of weeks since Ted announced Alynn's death and the Holy Spirit prompted me to preach a sermon on the reality of demons.

#### MY FIRST REACTION

I couldn't believe my eyes when I first read Ted's story. I have known him for some 20 years, and although I've never met him in person, I have spoken to him many times over the phone and exchanged information about the World Government, the Kabbalah and other related issues.

Ted is not a crackpot, and for him to go public with a story like this is very brave, since most Christians don't believe that demons exist, let alone that they can attack a Christian. In reading the story, I realized that many of the things he shared had also happened to me and my family over the years, but just like Ted, I have only shared these things with a small circle of people. Let's begin this message by looking at events recorded in the Bible.

#### BIBLICAL TEACHING ABOUT THE DEVIL

Jesus had an encounter with the Devil when He started His ministry. This is recorded in Matthew, Mark and Luke. **Luke 4:1-13**

This corroborates that the Devil is a spiritual individual, not some kind of force without any personality. Let's look at his activities:

- ❖ Satan has the ability to travel on the earth. **Job 1:6-7; 2:1-2**
- ❖ Satan monitors the life of people on the earth. **Job 1:8-10; 2:3**
- ❖ Satan has the legal right to request permission from God to attack people. **Job 1:11-12; 2:4-7; Luke 22:31-32**
- ❖ Satan is continuously seeking people to destroy. **1 Peter 5:8**
- ❖ Satan can only be in one place at one time and therefore has a horde of fallen angels who are carrying out his wishes on this earth. **Matthew 12:24-29; Ephesians 6:10**
- ❖ Satan is constantly trying to destroy the followers of God on this earth. **Revelation 12:13-17**
- ❖ Satan has a kingdom on this earth. **Matthew 12:26**



## **SATAN'S PERSONALITY TRAITS**

Here are some of Satan's personality traits as brought out by Scripture:

- ❖ He is prideful. **Isaiah 14:12-14**
- ❖ He enjoys destroying things. **verses 16-17**
- ❖ He is the originator of all evil. **Ezekiel 28:15**
- ❖ He is violent. **verse 16**
- ❖ He has corrupted wisdom. **verse 17**
- ❖ He is a corrupter of the true worship of God. **verse 18**
- ❖ He is cunning, sly and deceptive. **Genesis 3:1**
- ❖ He hates God. **Revelation 13:4-6**
- ❖ He is a liar and a murderer. **John 8:44**
- ❖ He is a sinner. **1 John 3:8**

***When a human being is born, he automatically becomes a citizen of the kingdom of Satan. Ephesians 2:1-2; Colossians 1:13; 1 Peter 2:9***

Satan is a defeated foe. **John 12:31; 16:11; Colossians 2:15**

Jesus came to destroy the works of Satan. **1 John 3:8**

Satan is already sentenced to the Lake of Fire. **Matthew 25:41**

## **SUMMARY**

Jesus defeated Satan at the cross and has all authority. **Matthew 28:18; Revelation 1:10-18**

Even though he has been defeated, the Devil is still loose on this earth and able to attack people. As Christians we should not fear the Devil, but we should not underestimate him either. Whether we like it or not, he is a foe to be reckoned with, and we must fight him with our spiritual weapons. **2 Corinthians 10:3-5**

If you stumble upon a rattlesnake, you have more power than it does, but you still respect its poison. We cannot defeat Satan by our own power, only through the power of God. **Jude 9**

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

**DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?**