

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER

TO THE CHURCH OF THE DISPERSION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

1-PETER CHAPTER 5:8-9

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX989

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“The Second Biggest Problem In Your Life – Part 2”

The Ministry of The Grace of God Toward All Those Who Are Anchored in Christ.

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be sober, be vigilant; because (a) your adversary the devil (b) walks about (c) like a roaring lion, (d) seeking whom he may devour. 9 (a) Resist him, steadfast in the faith, (b) knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

The early Christian church had become well-aware of satanic & demonic activity.

Satan traffics near and around a bitter or unforgiving heart.

2 Corinthians 2:10-11

Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, 11 lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

I believe that in our day, Satan dresses up looking just like one of us. Sounds like us, talks like us – hangs around, near to us.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

The Second Biggest Problem In Your Life

1.) Is Satan’s ability to blind you from reality vs. 8

1a.) Spiritual Disciplines vs. 8a

:8a Be sober, be vigilant;

:8b because your adversary
the devil walks about

We're Jolted into Reality with this **Confrontational Truth**;
Because your adversary = Satan, Devil, The Wicked One.

Adversary grk antidikos; this word is reserved for "Satan" - your opposite, or opponent. The one who is against you at every turn. One who stands to stop you.

Revelation 12:10 -11a

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. **11a** And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb.

accuser grk: kategoreo; to **categorically** make accusation, one after another. From one category to the next, charges are brought against you.

Satan is a Devil - the Slanderer of you. He is the Accuser of you.
He is the intended Destroyer of you, your friends and your family.

Notice his tactics. He's always out and about looking for the

- #1) spiritually **distracted** (doubtful)
- #2) the spiritually **weak** (ignorant)
- #3) the spiritually **weary** (empty)

Implying that he and his demon-army are systematically
trying **doorknobs** and **window latches** of the Christian's heart.

All he needs is a foot in the door.

(This is why, out of nowhere, a tempting thought comes into your mind.)

"the devil **WALKS** about"

Notice here – he's **not** crouching, he's **not** running, he's **not** hiding

The Danger of "Little Doses" of Evil

(There is a grave warning here – this "**walk's about**" can also mean that he intends to get you to become familiar with his proximity to you and your family.)

Walking so as to disarm you over time.

(Like people who own pythons and let them slither around their house.
- “but we’ve had him since he was just a little worm”)

The Second Biggest Problem In Your Life

Is Satan’s ability to blind you from reality

1c.) Failing to heed the warnings

vs. 8c

:8c like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Roaring grk: oruomai; onomatop., to **remind** others. To **intimidate** others. To defeat in the mind first, then take the city.

The goliath tactic of shouting insults:

- 1.) Communicating their location (territory) to other lions.
- 2.) Communicating their size (power) to others.

Lions mostly roar at or around sunrise and sunset.

(the hours of intimidation)

(It’s best to get spiritually suited up to fight a lion before sunrise and to stay suited up well into the evening.)

Lions have been documented to be able to increase the volume and the frequency levels of their roar in order to intimidate a threat or a victim.

Seeking grk: zeteo; to make inquire, to be looking for. To search for, to pursue with the intent take, to stalk, to follow nearby or behind. To close in on.

And now I’m wondering if Peter is not thinking of himself and how bitterly he failed to stand guard against satan in his earlier days.

Bible commentator and scholar J.H. Jowett

“Peter’s memory here helps his message. It seems as though the apostle dips his pen in his own blood to write to us his lesson.”

As a young man, full of youth and himself had to learn...

Luke 22:31-32

And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. **32 But I have prayed for you**, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.”

There was and still is a “calculus” to Satan’s method of seeking.

Luke 4:13

When the devil had finished tempting Jesus,
he left him **until the next opportunity came.**

“whom he may”

“Whoever falls to his devices. Satan is not picky as to which soul he cripples or kills – So long as the heart of God is afflicted and the Christian neutralized.”

What do they look like, those whom he has devoured?

2 Timothy 2:26c

...The snare of the devil **has come upon them,**
having been taken captive by him to do his will.

The Second Biggest Problem In Your Life

2.) Is Satan’s ability to lull you to sleep

vs. 9a

The Second Biggest Problem In Your Life

Is Satan’s ability to lull you to sleep

2a.) Keep you from the Word of God

vs. 9a

:9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith...

Resist grk: anthistemi; to set yourself against, to withstand. to fight, to oppose.

James 4:7

Therefore **submit** to God. **Resist** the devil and he will (must) flee from you.

**(Meaning that the Word of God is the only thing
that causes him to retreat)**

Ephesians 6:10-13,16-17

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.... :16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, **and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;**

Our Resistance Begins in the Mind;

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. **4** For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, **5** casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

We have the ultimate example of this in Jesus Christ

Matthew 4:1-4

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. **2** And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. **3** Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." **4** But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "

This "resist" or "resisting" implies that he is always near to us, around us and so, he and his demons are following you but are wise to maintain a level of secrecy. **Satan will disguise himself.**

He moves among us as a counterfeit.

(I personally believe that at times, Satan's decoys are so well hidden in plain view that only the Holy Spirit is able to reveal their location)

Counterfeits – "first in the pulpit, so in the pews."

The local "church" just might be the most dangerous place to be these days. What is being peddled off as "the gospel" and "bible teaching" is nothing more than an attempt by some moralist or religionist to create a "self-help" program in the name of Jesus.

Satan and his knock-off Outfits

Satan is "like" a Lion but he's not.

Revelation 5:5

But one of the elders said to me, "**Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah,**

Revelation 19:16

And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:
KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Satan is “like” a King but he’s not.

Revelation 6:2

And I looked, and behold, a **white horse**. He who sat on it had a **bow**; and a **crown** was given to him, and **he went out conquering** and to conquer.

The Second Biggest Problem In Your Life

3.) Is Satan’s ability to isolate you from God vs. 9b

The Second Biggest Problem In Your Life

Is Satan’s ability to isolate you from God

3a.) I must be the only one who doesn't get this vs. 8a

:8a knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

Preventing You from “Knowing”

Peter knows what he is speaking of.
His suffering became a great example for us.

Matthew 26:31-33

Then Jesus said to them, “All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: ‘I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ 32 But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee.”

:33 **Peter answered and said to Him**, “Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.”

3b.) I have crossed the point of no return vs. 8b

:8b knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

same grk: autos; (a Greek intensive pronoun; the emphatic) every possible situation that has been in play - is in play. Nothing is without significance. The “common” things of life. (Such as is common or universal to life)

1 Corinthians 10:12-13

Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. **13** No temptation has overtaken you except such as is **common** (same to every) to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

Spiritual depression left unchecked can lead to psychological disorders which, if left unchecked, can lead to physical illness which, if left unchecked, can lead to spiritual uselessness.

Isaiah 1:18-19a

“Come now, and let us reason together,” Says the Lord, “Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool. **19a** If you are willing...”

...are you willing to believe in a lie?
...or are you willing to believe in the truth?

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. - - For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. And now Jesus, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us - He has taken it out of the way, having nailed them to His cross. By doing so He has disarmed all principalities and powers, making a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them all.

1 John 4:4, Romans 8:37-39, James 4:7-8, Colossians 2:14-15

Numbers 6:24-26

“The Lord bless you and keep you; **25** The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; **26** The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.” ’

End of Study

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