

I Peter 5:8-11

Soberly Resisting Evil, Looking Forward, To The Glory Of God

I. Introduction:

A. Before we jump into this study, let's be reminded that references to Satan acting in this world can be literal (**Job 1:1-2:13**) or figurative (**Revelation 2:9-10**).

1. The person of Satan literally acted in this world (**Matthew 4:1-11**).
2. His influence is also active in this world (**John 8:44**).
3. Satan was cast into this earth (**Luke 10:17-18** and **Revelation 12:7-9**) but then bound (**II Peter 2:4** and **Jude 1:6**).
4. I tend to exercise caution when "blaming" Satan for things, for many erringly think he is controlling sinners literally as they fail to understand his limitations. Sin is a choice that people do, even when they were influenced by Satan directly, and not something he controls (**Genesis 3:1ff.** and **James 1:13-16**).

B. There are times wherein a person acts in such a way wherein that person represents Satan (**Mark 8:31-33**).

1. The children of God and the children of Satan are known by what actions those people take (**I John 2:29-3:10**).
2. Thus, the likeness of Satan is seen in sinners (**Acts 5:1-11**) when they do that which is according to the ways of the world rather than the ways of God (**II Corinthians 4:3-4** and **Ephesians 2:1-3**).

II. Body: *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen"* (**I Peter 5:8-11**).

A. Be sober and vigilant [watch] (**I Thessalonians 5:6**).

1. Not catering to the flesh (**Romans 13:13-14**).
2. For them, understanding the situation they were facing in the first century (**I Peter 4:7**).

B. Your adversary the devil (**Luke 22:31-32**).

1. Understanding your two choices clearly (**Acts 26:18**).
2. Knowing that those who are not righteous are his advocates (**Acts 13:6-11**; cf. **Luke 11:14-23**).
3. The work of Satan is summed up in sin (**I Corinthians 7:5** and **I Timothy 5:14-15**) and the end result of such (**Romans 6:23**; cf. **Matthew 25:46**).

C. Resist (**James 4:7**).

1. Don't be ignorant of Satan's mark on this world (**II Corinthians 2:5-11**).

2. Don't give him place (**Ephesians 4:27**).
 3. Be armored (**Ephesians 6:11-17**).
 4. Steadfast in the faith (**Hebrews 3:14**).
- D. Other faithful brethren are facing these things, not just these saints or any other saints then or now (**Revelation 1:9**).
1. Such was foretold (**Matthew 5:10-12** and **John 16:33**).
 2. Some suffered many things (**Galatians 3:4**).
 3. Saints have to endure tribulation (**Romans 12:12**).
- E. God's goal is not that His people be devoured, but that we have eternal glory (**Titus 3:7** and **I John 2:25**).
1. Eternal glory which is in Christ (**II Timothy 2:10**).
 2. This eternal glory is what gets saints through times of suffering in the flesh (**II Corinthians 4:16-18**).
- F. After suffering for "a while" (**I Peter 1:6-9**)...
1. Made perfect or "mending" (**Matthew 4:21**) "restore" (**Galatians 6:1**).
 2. Stablish (**II Peter 1:10-12**).
 3. Strengthen (**II Timothy 4:16-18**).
 4. Settle you (**Colossians 1:23**).
 5. Some levels of suffering can suck the strength out of you (**II Corinthians 1:8**).
 6. How does God accomplish such in ways that would continue to now? Consider: **Acts 18:23**, **I Thessalonians 3:1-2**, and **I Thessalonians 3:10**
- G. All glory to the God of all grace (**Jude 1:25**).
1. Saints can only overcome because of the faith that what we have to come is greater than what we can lose in the here and now (**Luke 6:22-23** and **Hebrews 11:24-26**).
 2. Furthermore, we are reminded that our salvation is not of ourselves (**Ephesians 2:5-10**).

III. Conclusion: Our Next Study; *"By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand. The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son. Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen"* (**I Peter 5:12-14**).