

WATCH OUT FOR THE LION.

11/3/2024 AM

INTRO.:

A. Text: **1 Peter 5:8-9.**

B. Regarding the text:

1. Notice the words, “as a roaring lion.”
2. It is the devil, our adversary, who is compared to this “king of the animal world.”
3. **We must not allow him to be “king” of our world!**

I. THE ADMONITION (1 PETER 5:8).

A. **Be sober, be vigilant...**

1. Sober defined:
 - 1) Roberson: it comes from the root word meaning: “to be watchful.”
 - 2) Vincent: to be sound of mind.
 - 3) Watch and be cautious! Christians must not be preoccupied with things that cause them to overlook the enemy who is stalking them.
2. Vigilant: Definition.
 - 1) Strong (1127): to keep awake, watch.
 - 2) Thayer: to watch, give strong attention to, to be cautious.
 - 3) Vine: to watch, keep awake, to be spiritually alert.
3. The devil is lurking in secret places. His eyes are watching for the right moment to pounce. Thus, we must keep awake.

B. **NOTE: We have a part to play in protecting ourselves against our enemy.**

II. THE ADVERSARY (1 PETER 5:8).

A. **His description.**

1. Adversary:
 - 1) Strong (476): opponent; Thayer: the enemy.
 - 2) Vines = opponent; **Luke 18:3** “And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.”
2. The devil.
 - 1) Strong (1228): “diabolos,” slanderer.
 - 2) Thayer: prone to slander, false accuser.
 - 3) **John 8:44** describes him as a murderer and father of lies.

B. **Peter described him “as a roaring lion.”**

1. In Palestine, one of the animals that lurked nearby was the lion.
2. The comparison between Satan and the lion.
 - 1) Both are real. Satan is not a mythical creature.
 - 2) Both go on the prowl seeking their prey (**Job 1:7** “And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.”)
3. Both seek all prey, but especially the weak.
 - 1) Satan believed God protected Job (**Job 1:10** “Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.”)
 - 2) Satan attacked the Christ at a crucial time (**Matt. 4:2-3** “And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones *be made bread*. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”)

- 3) Be extremely cautious when you are lonely, depressed, or angry. In those times we are more vulnerable to the attacks of the evil one.
 - a. He is crafty in his approaches.
 - b. He sneaks up on his victims.
 - c. He waits for the perfect time to attack.
 - a) **Genesis 3:1** “Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”
 - b) **2 Cor. 11:3** “But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”
4. Satan’s power lies in his ability to entice and deceive us.
 - 1) He is an expert at causing men to stumble.
 - 2) He wants us to believe his lies (**Gen. 3:5** “For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”)

C. He does not take pity on their victims.

1. Lions do not care about the size, innocence, or the cries of their prey.
2. Satan preys on the elderly, men, women and children!

III. THE ANSWER (1 PETER 5:9).

A. Resist (1 Peter 5:9).

1. Whom resist steadfast in the faith.
 - 1) The key word is resist.
 - 2) Definitions:
 - a. Strong (436): to stand against, that is, oppose.
 - b. Thayer: to set one’s self against, withstand, resist, oppose.
 - a) **James 4:7** “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”
 - b) **Eph. 4:27** “Neither give place to the devil.”
- 3) In the faith.
 - a. “The faith” refers to the “system of faith.” It refers to the precious New Testament of Jesus Christ, the Word of God.
 - b. By using the Word of God, we can stand firmly against the temptations of Satan that are designed to bring us to destruction.
 - c. Example: Jesus in the wilderness, (**Matt. 4:1-11**).

IV. CONCLUSION.

- A. The lion stalking us can be defeated.**
- B. He is not in control. He can only tempt us.**
- C. Yet, by God’s word we can keep him at bay.**