



Men's Discipleship Class – Week 11
December 6, 2018

Verses:

John 10:10

Isaiah 7:14

Isaiah 14:12-15

Ezekiel 28:12-19

John 12:27-31

Matthew 25:41

Revelation 20:14-15

Matthew 4:1-10

1 Peter 5:6-8

Revelation 12:9-10

Galatians 5:16

We are going to talk about Satan today. No, I did not say mothers-in-law. There are some similarities at times. It was my wife's mother-in-law that was the problem in our home. You are going to discover there are certain Greek words that are not translated in the New Testament.

Σατανᾶς. This is the Greek word Satan. We do not translate it. There are words in the Greek that are transliterated which means they are sounded out in English. Baptism. We do not translate that Greek word. If we did it would mean to dip, plunge, or immerse. Why do not we translate the word? Why do we transliterate it? Because of money. The only denominations that baptize are Church of Christ, Assembly of God, and Baptist. None of the others would buy a Bible that talked about immersion, so they used the little thing of baptism so that everybody will by the Bible. You can make it say what you want it to say. We use the word Satan. That is the only word we have. This word literally means opponent or adversary. We are going to walk through today.

We are going to spend three weeks on Satan. We are going to look at him today. We will look at his origin, how he came to be, and what he does. We are going to look at him individually. Next week we will look at what he does in your life and his methods in your life. The week after that we will look at demons. I hate to go into the holidays focused on him, but that is what we are going to do. I want to walk through a lot of different scriptures. We are going to cover some ground today. Look at John 10:10. You should be able to quote this. Matter of fact, somebody quote this for me. This is like a Baptist verse. What is it?

[10](#)The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

You have this clear contrast between the purpose of Satan and the purpose of Jesus. They are diametrically opposed to one another. If you want an abundant life, you walk where Jesus wants you to walk. If you do not, you walk where Satan wants you to walk.

We are going to look at two passages in Old Testament. We will look at Isaiah and Ezekiel. With these passages, there is always some debate. Isaiah 14:12-15. These are the passages that discuss his origin. Ezekiel 28:12-19. This is his origin. This is where he came into being. Obviously, when he was created there was no issue with him. Now look at Isaiah. We will start in Isaiah 14. The problem with some of the Old Testament for example is when some of the prophecies will go through like in Isaiah 7:14, which we will talk about at Christmas, two different styles.

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

That prophecy has to do with the King of Tyre and also with Jesus. There are these passages that kind of weave in normalized style and then some sort of prophetic statement. This is one of them. Listen to Isaiah 14. Here is what he says.

12“How you are fallen from heaven,
O Day Star, son of Dawn!
How you are cut down to the ground,
you who laid the nations low!
13You said in your heart,
‘I will ascend to heaven;
above the stars of God
I will set my throne on high;
I will sit on the mount of assembly
in the far reaches of the north;
14I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High.’
15But you are brought down to Sheol,

So you have this statement here in Isaiah that his motivation in rebellion was to be equal to God. As a matter of fact, he really wants to supplant God. It is interesting. This is exactly the motivation he brings to Adam and Eve in Genesis 3. He says if you eat this tree, you will be what? ...just like God. That is exactly what his passion and heartbeat is. For some reason, he wants to be like him. His motivation is to be like him or actually to overthrow him.

Now turn over to the right a couple of books into Ezekiel 28. We are going to see a little more detail about who he is. Again, it will say ‘a lament over the King of Tyre’, but this is actually particularly when he says ‘you were in Eden, the garden of God and the King of Tyre was not there’. I want you to listen to what this says about him.

You were the signet of perfection,

So, he did not sin from the beginning.

full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.
13You were in Eden, the garden of God;
every precious stone was your covering,
sardius, topaz, and diamond,
beryl, onyx, and jasper,

sapphire, emerald, and carbuncle;
and crafted in gold were your settings
and your engravings.
On the day that you were created
they were prepared.
14You were an anointed guardian cherub.

So, he is not an angel. You have cherubim, seraphim, and angels. He is not an angel. He is a cherub. Cherubs are the ones where part of their role was to guard the Arc of the Covenant. So, he has particular duties. He is different from an angel.

I placed you; you were on the holy mountain of God;
in the midst of the stones of fire you walked.
15You were blameless in your ways
from the day you were created,
till unrighteousness was found in you.
16In the abundance of your trade
you were filled with violence in your midst, and you sinned;
so I cast you as a profane thing from the mountain of God,
and I destroyed you, O guardian cherub,
from the midst of the stones of fire.
17Your heart was proud because of your beauty;
you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor.

So, he goes on and talks to him. It is interesting a couple of things that he says here. You have got to remember this. He says 'you were beautiful'. This is key to remember. You are wise. You are created. I want you to lock these things down. One of the movies that scared me to death as a kid was a movie about gargoyles. These guys were evil looking. They lived in the caves. They would come out at night and eat you up. You could not run from a gargoyle because they could fly. Every time you see a picture of Satan, it is always an ugly grotesque being. If you saw him in person in here, he would look magnificent to you. He is extremely smart. He has not lost that because of his corruption. He is created. What are the three things that make God God? What are they? He is omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent. Satan does not know everything. He cannot be in every place. He is not all powerful. This is why, for example, the fact that he is not omnipresent he has to have demons that work for him in your life. The odds are you are never going to actually run into Satan. You are going to run into people that work for him. We are going to see that in two weeks. Particularly, there is this weird little statement in Acts 16, a passage we will look at, where this guy tries to kick demons out of this guy. He is a Jewish exorcist. He says 'I command in the name of Jesus whom Paul preaches, come out'. The demon said that he knew Jesus. He then makes this weird little statement where he says he has heard about Paul. So, he did not know Paul. The name had been bandied about among the demons as somebody to worry about. His creation means he is not omnipotent. He is not omniscient. He is not omnipresent. There is a limitation to who he is even though he is the most beautiful thing God ever created and the wisest thing he ever created. These two things combined brought about his downfall.

Look at John 12:27-30. This is why he hates you. It is why he tried to keep Jesus off the cross. He did not put him on the cross. He did not want him on the cross. He does everything he can to keep him off the cross. As a matter of fact, we are going to look at three passages. We are going to look in John. We are going to look at Matthew 25:41. We are also going to look at Revelation 20:15. Now. John 12:27-31. Slide over there. Listen to what he says. This is Jesus. He is at the

end of his life.

27“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour.

What hour is he talking about? Yes, crucifixion.

28Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” 29The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” 30Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. 31Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

So, the cross casts Satan out. This is his world. We are going to see that in a minute. The cross removes him. Now, look at a couple of scriptures quickly. I will then come back and explain something. Look at Matthew 25:41.

41“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Now, hold there and go to Revelation 20. The last book of the Bible. Look at Revelation 20, and listen to the shift that occurs. Revelation 20:15. Start in verse 14.

14Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

So, when Satan falls based on this passage, remember you do not really go to Hell. Hell is thrown into the Lake of Fire. Hell is the holding tank until the end of time judgement. So, this end of time judgement Lake of Fire was prepared for Satan. When we sinned in Genesis 3, the Lake of Fire was never prepared for us. When we sinned in Genesis 3, we did a de-transfer. We gave him our world. Now, our destiny is the Lake of Fire. When Jesus comes and dies on the cross, he restores the original concept. Now, Satan is destined here, and we do not have to go here if we surrender to Christ. There is this shift that has occurred. Now the offer for mankind is ‘you are going here unless you accept the cross’. He does two things. He tries to disqualify Jesus from the cross. He tries to get him to sin. If Jesus sins, he is not qualified to die. The other thing he does is that he tries to keep him off the cross. That is why he has those three prayers. The capillaries in his sweat glands burst because of the emotional fight he is going through. He does two things to try and keep him off the cross. If he does not go to the cross or he fails, he does not go to the Lake of Fire, we do. He gets to stay in this world, and the banishment is not there. It must be a pretty bad banishment, because when Jesus cast the demons, the first thing they said to him is ‘please, do not send us there before our time’. The cross makes this shift of destiny, which is why Satan fought so hard on Jesus to either disqualify him or stop him. Everything he did was in that gauge. He is the enemy of Christ. Therefore, he is the enemy of us. Now that he cannot go, he wants to stop us.

Look at Matthew 4:1-10. We are not going to read all of the verses, but I want you to look so that we are very clear. I grew up on the idea of devil ham. Everything I knew about Satan was that he had a pitchfork, he was red, he had a long forked tail, and he was mean looking. None of that is obviously true. This is one of the things. His job is to try and keep him off the cross. Then it says:

1Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2And

after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” 4But he answered, “It is written, ““Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”” 5Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple 6and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ““He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ““On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.”” 7Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 8Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” 10Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, ““You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.””

Now this is his job in your life now. He is your tempter. Now, remember. He does not have to tempt you prior to Christ. He controls you prior to Christ, because you have a nature he owns. Now that has changed and you have become a Christian, all that he can do is talk you into sin. He cannot push you into sin. Now, all he can do is tempt you. But, because he is good-looking and because he is brilliant, he is really good at this. If he can talk Adam and Eve out of a personal relationship with God, a great relationship with each other, a perfect beautiful world, and a health in each others live, he can then talk you into anything. That is a critical point.

You need to understand something. He is really good with Jesus. Everything he quotes to Jesus is correct. I am telling you to fight the tempter. You have to understand this passage. Jesus quotes scripture to him. It is not the quoting of scripture that stops Satan. He knows the Bible better than anybody in this room. You cannot quote scripture and remove him. This is why I hate the Christian Standard Version, the new Southern Baptist version, because when you come to the Old Testament where it says you meditate on the word of God, it uses the word ‘recite’. It leaves you with the impression that if you just recite scripture that Satan will move away. No. No. No. No. No. You have to yield to the scripture and live it out. Jesus, matter of fact, when facing the very first temptation where Satan says you need to be hungry. You have the power so why do not you turn these stones into bread. That was the exact true statement. He does have the power to do that, but he said he would not do it. In other words, he will not do what the father does not allow me to do right now.

The tempter is brilliant. This is what he is going to do in your life. He is going to try and tempt you away from what God wants you to do. Now. Look at John 12:30-31 so that we are clear. I want you to understand that I am not making stuff up here. Listen to what he says again. We looked at this, but I want to remind us and be sure.

30Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. 31Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

This world belongs to Satan. It is his world. You say ‘so God is not sovereign?’ No, he is sovereign. We deeded the world over to him. Listen to me carefully. What that means is you cannot pray away his temptation. We had women’s conference here. It comes here every year. They called last year and said they wanted to come in during the week. If you know anything about our church, you know we are exceptionally busy during the week. They wanted to come in and have a day where they could walk around and pray in the rooms and bind Satan in the rooms. That sounds wonderful, but you cannot do that. He is allowed to tempt, and it is his world. You do not get to kick him out. You gave it to him. Now, you can gain victory over him, but it is his. His job is to tempt. It is his world. I cannot pray him out of a room. I cannot pray him out of my

house. I cannot pray him out of the church service. You cannot do that. It is his right and prerogative that Adam and Eve gave him and that now we live in. This is why you know you will not sin after you die. There was only one offer of temptation given to us. He is bound and put into the Lake of Fire at the end of time. We do not ever see him again, so there will be nothing to tempt us away from the father. We are not going to sin again. Now we will go into a world that belongs totally to God. The tempter who was in Genesis 3 never reappears in our life. The redemption is pure, powerful, and deep.

Look at 1 Peter 5:7-8. Slide over to the right. Hebrews. James. 1 Peter 5. We will start in verse 6 because that is key that we will look at in a minute.

6Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,7casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. 8Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary

Remember that is his name. Antidikos. Adversary. He is opposed to you.

Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

So, here is what it means. Right? He is proactive. He is not reactive to your life. He is proactive. He is watching you and waiting for a place where you do not believe what Jesus says. You then open the door for him to come in and deal with you. He is proactive. He is watching your life. You need to understand. Again, I will talk more about this in two more weeks. Actually, we will meet next Thursday, and then after the holidays, we will come back. We will end with Satan and come back with demons. It is going to be a real positive Christmas for you.

There are demons. Again, I will go over this in detail. We will look in Daniel particularly. There are demons assigned to you. Probably, the number depending on how well you walk or do not walk in Christ. Those demons watch your life on a continual basis. They report back to him. Their job is to destroy you. '...like a roaring lion, seeking to devour.' Their job is not to make it hard for you. Their job is not to make your life uneasy. The word is 'devour'. That is his purpose in your life. He wants to take you and to devour you. I had a lady come up to me after prayer meeting last night. She had grown up under Frank Paige who I have talked about and was the head of the convention. He pastored several churches and was just a great man. The enemy got him into an affair and has devoured his life. His name has been bandied about in every paper from the New York Times to the Post to the Dallas Morning News. He cannot pastor anymore. He cannot do anything for Christ anymore. He is doing everything he can to heal his family and to heal his friendships. Because he yielded to the tempter, he devoured his life. He is proactive. He is not sitting around waiting. He is trying to find a way to take you down.

One other thing. If Matthew 4 is true, he is real. He is not a figment. He is not an idea. He is a legitimate being. All the demons are legitimate beings. Jesus did not talk to himself here. He talked to a person that he knew because he created him. There is a deep reality to Satan. Now, a couple of things. Revelation 12:9 talks about him being a deceiver, a dragon, and a serpent. We will not go there but he talks about a dragon and a serpent. This is what we will look at when we deal with demons. The dragon is loud. You see him. You do not see the serpent coming generally. There is the covert and the overt. The overt and covert of Satan. Sometimes he is loud, and you see him. Sometimes you do not see him coming. Whichever way it is according to Revelation 12:9, he is a deceiver. He is always going to trick you. He is never going to be honest.

Revelation 12:10. Turn there. We really should have gone there with 9. I want you to look at

Revelation 12:10 at what it says about him that will absolutely apply in your life.

9And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. 10And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

This is his job. He is going to accuse you on every level that he can. This is only way you stop his accusation because sometimes his accusations are true. Now, there is this huge difference in him accusing you and the Holy Spirit convicting you. They are going to say the same thing to you. If you, for example, mistreat your wife. He is going to accuse you. He will say you are sorry and you mistreat your wife. The Holy Spirit is going to say to you that you mistreated your wife. What is the difference? The Holy Spirit will bring you to the place of repentance and forgive you. The accusation of the enemy will be to continue the guilt in you and simply make you feel like you are a crappy husband, a crappy man, and a bad guy. The way you know the difference between whether you are surrendering to the accusation of the enemy or the conviction of the Holy Spirit is whether you feel freedom and forgiveness or guilt and condemnation. If you feel guilt and condemnation, you are listening to the enemy. If you understand forgiveness, return to your wife, and love her properly, you are understanding confession.

It is interesting to me what I have shared before that every Wednesday I have kids come in. I run them through a set of questions. It is always the same questions. The first question is fun because I ask them what they want to be when they grow up. Their parents have never asked them. Some of the answers are unique. I will ask them that and run through a few questions. I will then ask them if they know what sin is. I will make them define it and give me an example. I ask them if they sin. They answer ‘yes’. I ask them if God likes their sin. They answer ‘no’. Does he like you? Yes. I have never ever in all the years I have done this had a single child look at me and say that God does not like them. I have adults in my office continually who think God does not love them. Why? ...because he is really good at this. He will beat the crap out of you in accusing you. The problem is, gentlemen, we are going to fail. None of us is a great husband. None of us is a perfect dad. None of us is a perfect friend. None of us is a perfect church member. We are going to fail. When we fail, to beings speak into your life. The demons assigned to you will immediately accuse you. The Holy Spirit in you will immediately convict you. Whichever one you respond to will determine whether you think he loves you or does not love you. You have to respond to the Holy Spirit not the accusations of the enemy.

Last thing, I want you to go to Galatians 5:16. This is what I want you to carry into the holiday. If you are in Revelation hang a left. Ephesians, hang a left. 2 Corinthians, hang a right. Galatians 5:16. This goes back to the very first session we met. Listen to what he says.

16But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

How do I walk by the Spirit? There are two ways. I listen to the subjective leading of the Holy Spirit inside my heart confirmed by the objective writing of the Spirit in the Bible. It took God 1500 years to write this Bible using forty different authors. From Genesis to Revelation, it says the same thing. I do not have to fear Satan. I have to live in Christ. If I live in the Holy Spirit, it does not matter. None of this matters if I live in the Holy Spirit. It is when I yield to him and step away from this Spirit, when I step away from what this book says and the leadership of the Spirit in my life, that is the point at which I am in trouble.

It is interesting to me at how good he is at generations. What was the greatest generation? What generation was that according to Tom Brokaw who wrote a book about it? WWII generation. What generation followed them? Baby boomers. The baby boomers were the opposite of their parents. We spit on people that came back from Vietnam. Our parents died for a country that today still hates us. We died twice on the sands of France for a country that still hates us to this day. We went to Vietnam and spit on the people who came home. Why? There was a subtle change. The Bible is real clear. Gentlemen, we are going to talk about this when we talk about parenting in a few weeks. If I live by the Spirit, I cannot fulfill the desires of the flesh. If I do the objective truth of scripture and allow the subjective direction of the Holy Spirit in my life, the enemy cannot win. The Bible is clear. Spare the rod. Spoil the child. There was a guy that came up named Benjamin Spock. There is no relation to Star Trek. Benjamin came up and said to not spank your children because you will ruin them psychologically. The WWII generation that came home bought into that. They did not discipline the children. It created the baby boomers who came up self-indulged. We are the ones who created the sexual revolution. We are the one who said we are going to do whatever we want to do. We have free love. We are not going to live inside the bounds of marriage. That very change of stepping away from the objectivity of scripture destroyed a generation. It is amazing how that is still here today.

If you go to John 1 in the Greek, there is a unique little phrase. It says that Jesus was face to face with the father. πρὸς τὸν θεόν. Pros ton Theon. He was face to face with God. They looked at each other. Inside the Trinity, there is communication face to face. If you go to a restaurant and look at four teenage girls next to you, every one of them will be sitting there and not one of them is looking at the other one. They have their phones. They are scrolling around. There is no face to face communication because we have stepped away with Facebook and Snapchat and Instagram and all that crap out there as well as emails and texting to the point where we are no longer face to face. Here is the interesting thing. The millennials who are coming up as a result of that want what? What is the number one thing they want? They want authenticity. They want authenticity because nothing in their life has been authentic. Facebook is a lie. Nobody puts the marriage struggles on Facebook. I mean you see people on Facebook who literally will have this great picture on Friday where they have gone to Disney World and then be in my office on Tuesday with nearly a wrecked marriage. Facebook is not authentic. We have lost our authenticity. We crave that because God made us for that.

Anytime we step away whether it is a culture or us, we step away from the objective truth of the Spirit and the subjective direction, we open ourselves up to everything he wants us to do in our life. He is tenacious. He will not quit. He does not care if he has to wait forty years to take you down. He will wait. He will never. He is real. He is active. He will never not be paying attention to who you are and who you are not. Your protection is not to worry about him. You are to live this out. I have never been fired in a church. I have never struggled or been tempted away from my wife, because I have kept my eyes on her. I have made sure I am emotionally connected with her. Here is how you affair proof a marriage. You do three things that I have done in my life as best I can. You are a three-part person. Body, soul, and spirit. Physical, emotional, and spiritual. I make sure my spiritual life is good with the father. I make sure my emotional life is good with my wife. This means real simply to spend time with her. I know it is hard. We are going to talk about this when we talk about marriage. I know it is hard because women want your undivided attention. They want you to gaze into their eyes. There is about four seconds I have to gaze into anybody's eyes. So, there are issues there. No matter what you have to do, you emotionally connect with your wife. I make sure physically that I am never alone with a woman. I never send personal texts to a woman. I text staff ladies, but it is always business. It is always the office stuff. If you do those three things and protect yourself in all three areas, he cannot have you. Every man I have ever had

in my office who had an affair either lost his walk with Christ, lost his walk with his wife, or he allowed himself an opportunity he should not have done. You do those three things which I think are objective in the scripture, and he cannot have you. I do not fear him. I just do what I am supposed to do. I do what I am supposed to do. He can be my adversary all day long. He can look for everything in my life but will not find anything. If he cannot find anything, he cannot do anything.