

# Satan Unmasked

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People often ask who is Satan and is he real? His greatest deception today is that he doesn't exist. The Bible mentions him 53 times as a literal entity, with 17 of those times from the mouth of Jesus.

**John 10:10 (NIV)** – Jesus said, “<sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.”

**1 Peter 5:8 (NKJV)** – <sup>8</sup> Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary or arch-enemy the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

As your arch-enemy, he is your primary enemy. That means your enemies are not flesh and blood or people. The person who hurt you isn't your arch-enemy.

How does Satan operate?

**Genesis 3:1-5 (NKJV)** – <sup>1</sup> Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'" <sup>2</sup> And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; <sup>3</sup> but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'" <sup>4</sup> Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup> For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

He wants you to question the veracity of God's Word. He wants you to think there is good for you outside of God. He seeks to distort the "image of God" in man, through sin or rebellion against God's stated plan for our lives. Satan desires for us to live in his distorted image. All sin either committed by you or against you is an attempt of the enemy to distort the image of God in you.

Satan even attempted to distort the image of God in Jesus.

**Luke 4:1-13 (NKJV)** – <sup>1</sup> Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. <sup>3</sup> And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." <sup>4</sup> But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'" <sup>5</sup> Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. <sup>7</sup> Therefore, if You will worship before

me, all will be Yours." <sup>8</sup> And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.'" <sup>9</sup> Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. <sup>10</sup> For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you,' <sup>11</sup> and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" <sup>12</sup> And Jesus answered and said to him, "It is written, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'" <sup>13</sup> Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

Adam and Eve believed the lie, while Jesus believed the truth of God's Word.