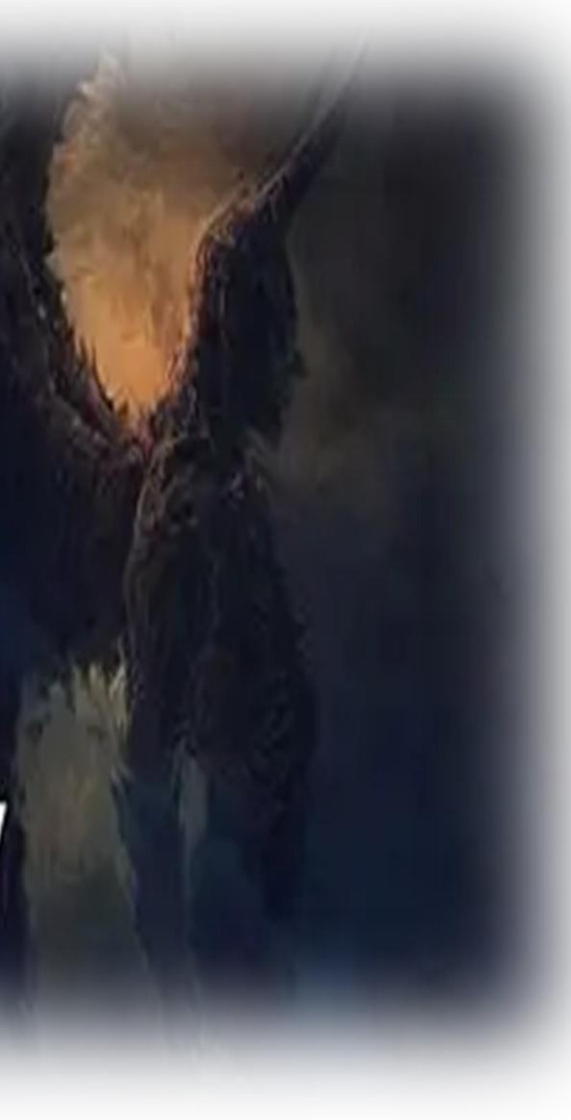




Knowing Your Enemy: Satan



KNOW YOUR ENEMY

We cannot fight an enemy effectively if we do not understand who he is, how he operates, and what his ultimate purpose is.

Satan is real, but he is not equal to God. He is a defeated enemy whose final judgment is certain.



Knowing Your Enemy: Satan

Theme: Know the enemy, recognize his tactics, stand in the authority of God, and remain victorious through Jesus Christ.

Table of Contents

September 2026

Lesson 1	September 6 Know the Enemy
Lesson 2	September 13 Recognizing Satan's Tactics
Lesson 3	September 20 Stand in the authority of God
Lesson 4	September 27 Remain victorious through Jesus



Please see the commentary at the end of each lesson



Know Your Enemy

Lesson 1

Date: September 6, 2026

Subject: Know Your Enemy

Lesson Text: Isaiah 14:3-21 John 8:44, 1 Peter 5:8

Lesson 1 - Isaiah 14:3-11

³ For the Lord will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob.

² And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the Lord for servants and handmaids: and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors.

³ And it shall come to pass in the day that the Lord shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve,

⁴ That thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased!

⁵ The Lord hath broken the staff of the wicked, and the sceptre of the rulers.

⁶ He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke, he that ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, and none hindereth.

⁷ The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing.

⁸ Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, and the cedars of Lebanon, saying, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us.

⁹ Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.

¹⁰ All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us?

¹¹ Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.

Continued - Isaiah 14:12-21

¹² How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

¹³ For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

¹⁵ Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

¹⁶ They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;

¹⁷ That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?

¹⁸ All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house.

¹⁹ But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet.

²⁰ Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned.

²¹ Prepare slaughter for his children for the iniquity of their fathers; that they do not rise, nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world with cities.

John 8:44

⁴⁴ Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

1 Peter 5:8

⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour



Lesson 1 Commentary Know Your Enemy

September 6, 2026

The reader would expect that Isaiah would inveigh against Assyria, since it was the most threatening enemy in his day, and since he referred to it many times in earlier chapters. However, he did not mention Assyria in this section but Babylon, an empire that came into its own about a century after Isaiah's time. Babylon was a symbol of self-exalting pride, and its glory, dating back to the tower of Babel (cf. Isaiah 13:5; Isaiah 13:10-11). Thus, what he said about Babylon was applicable to Assyria and other similar self-exalting powers in the eastern part of Israel's world. Similarly, what marked the Medes (Isaiah 13:17-18) was their fierce destruction of their enemies, which was already in view but would become more obvious in the years that followed. When the prophet lived and wrote, Babylon was a real entity within Assyria, but Isaiah used it to represent all the nations in that area that shared its traits (cf. Genesis 9:20-25; Revelation 17-18). Behind Assyria Isaiah saw the spirit of Babel, which he condemned here. Yet this is also a prophecy against real Babylon. "Babylon" is the Greek name for "Babel."

The literary structure of this oracle, omitting the introduction (Isaiah 13:1), is chiastic.

"A The day of the Lord: the beckoning hand, a universal purpose declared (Isaiah 13:2-16)

B The overthrow of Babylon: the end of the kingdom, the fact of divine overthrow (Isaiah 13:17-22)

C The security and future of the Lord's people: a contrasting universal purpose (Isaiah 14:1-2)

B' The overthrow of Babylon: the end of the king, the explanation of divine overthrow (Isaiah 14:3-23)



Lesson 1 Commentary Know Your Enemy

September 6, 2026

Lesson 1 Know Your Enemy : Scripture commentary: “He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him... for he is a liar, and the father of it.” Jesus identifies Satan as a liar and murderer. Deception is one of his primary weapons. Satan is an adversary. He looks for opportunities, weaknesses, distractions, and unguarded moments. Pride was at the heart of Satan's rebellion. His desire was not simply to be independent of God—he wanted God's place.

Illustration — The Burglar

Imagine a burglar studying a house. He doesn't necessarily attack the strongest door. He looks for the unlocked window, the broken fence, the place where nobody is watching.

Satan operates similarly. He looks for spiritual openings—unforgiveness, pride, temptation, discouragement, isolation, ignorance of Scripture, and disobedience.

The lesson isn't to become afraid of the burglar. It is to lock the doors.

Discussion Questions

1. What does the Bible teach us about Satan's character?
2. Why is deception such an effective weapon?
3. What spiritual “doors” can people sometimes leave unguarded?
4. Why should knowing our enemy make us more watchful rather than fearful?

Takeaway

Know who the enemy is—but remember who your God is.