Entity of Evil

9-5-21

1 Peter 5:8 (ESV)

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

We often look around us and are amazed at the corruption, evilness, and twisted thinking that is in the world. Unless we understand the "Entity of Evil" we will never grasp what is happening around us and how to overcome it. In Job we see "God, the Entity of Good" conversing with "Satan, the Entity of Evil". In this account, we see the Entity of Evil that we experience in the world today.

Job 1:6–12 (ESV) **No O/H**

⁶ Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. ⁷The LORD said to Satan, "From where have you come?" Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." 8 And the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?" 9 Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "Does Job fear God for no reason? 10 Have you not put a hedge around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. ¹¹ But stretch out your hand and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face." 12 And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your hand. Only against him do not stretch out your hand." So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

Satan, the Entity of Evil, presents his evil claims to God. The totality of God's answer to Satan rests upon the person of Job. God says, "Have you considered my servant Job?" The word "consider" literally means "fasten your eyes upon". God's people are the answer to all Satan's evil. God basically says, "Job will love me and trust me no matter what you do to him." Thus, Satan is furious with Job and all God's people.

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Satan is the person, the Entity of Evil. He is pure evil desiring to kill and destroy. As a prowling lion attacks suddenly, viciously, and often when its unsuspecting victim is engaged in routine activities. *The devil (diabolos)* refers to a personal spiritual being who is in active rebellion against God and who has leadership of many demons like himself. Peter here views Satan as a cunning and evil personal being who has the ability and the propensity to attack Christians. Satan's primary mode of operation is through people. Satan deceives and uses people. The NT shows us certain characteristics which we may recognized to be caused, at least in part, by the devil or demons: bizarre or violently irrational behavior, especially in opposition to the gospel or to Christians; malicious slander and falsehood in speech; bondage to self-destructive behavior; stubborn advocacy of false doctrine; the sudden and unexplained onslaughts of emotions inappropriate to the situation. Often believers will have deep spiritual uneasiness which might be called the 'discernment' of spiritual evil.

The world is in conflict. The Entity of Evil is at work.

1 John 5:19 (ESV)

We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

The world is a spiritually dangerous place because the whole world is under the control of (lit., "lies in,") the evil one. Christ keeps the believer safe from harm in the battle with the evil one, however we see the conflict still continues between opposing spiritual forces.

We need to understand that most of the evil around us is carried out by people's selfish, fleshly, sinful desires. However, we also need to know that Satan is also moving within unbelievers prompting them to do his evil, destructive will. Therefore, when we share with unbelievers, we must be aware of the possibility of the presence of the Entity of Evil.

Matthew 12:29 (ESV)

How can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man?

By the greater power of Jesus we can bind "the strong man, Satan" and plunder his "house". So, the kingdom of heaven is forcefully advancing. This is seeing in the Spirit, taking territory and possessions from Satan. A simple word in the name of Jesus can bind the enemy.

Matthew 16:23 (ESV)

Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me.

We have nothing to fear from Satan. However, we need to fully understand that this "Entity of Evil" and his demons exist. The devil has no power over the Christian except the power of seduction. However, when resisted, he will flee.

James4:7-8 (ESV)

⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The answer to the "Entity of Evil" is God's people through the finished work of Jesus Christ.



Colossians 2:13–15 (ESV)

¹³ You, who were dead and God you made alive together having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. <u>This he set aside</u>, <u>nailing it to the cross.</u> ¹⁵ <u>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over (Satan) in (Christ)</u>.

The Entity of Evil will be disarmed when we speak the word in Jesus' Name!

Prophetic Prayer