

## **Christs New Community: It Has An Enemy**

### **Meet your adversary**

***Eph 6:11,12, the devil and his minions***

**This matter has already been broached in Eph 2:2; 4:27**

### **We are at war...**

**A "smart" war where you may never see the whites of their eyes.**

**"We wrestle not"... "Put on the armor"**

### **There is a world of spiritual beings**

***If you could see the spirit world***

**Col 1:16; 2 Kings 6:17**

***Holy angels, powerful servants and messengers of God that do his bidding; they have various ranks and levels***

**Matthew 25:31; Mark 8:38; 2 Thess 1:7**

***Evil, perverse, fallen angels***

**Matthew 25:41; Matt 12:24, 26, 27**

***Some are free, Job 1:6,7***

***Some are bound, 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6***

***The devil and his minions are not a force, power surge, or entity***

**The devil is a person**

***He has intellect, 2 Cor 2:11***

***He has emotions, Rev 12:9,17***

***He has a will, Luke 22:31***

***He is morally responsible, Rev 20:10***

**He is a created being**

*Col 1:16*

*Neh 9:6*

*Job 38: 6, 7*

He is wicked beyond your ability to comprehend

*Eph 6:12*

*Matt 13:38-39; Mark 4:3; John 8:44; 1 Peter 5:8*

He has no moral principles, no code of honor, no higher feelings, no spiritual "Geneva convention." He is totally unscrupulous, totally ruthless

Rev 12:17

He hates and slanders those who belong to God

*Rev 12:10; Job 1:9; John 17:14-16*

He hates God's children with cruel destructive furious hatred

He has amazing, underestimated power and influence

*Over holy angels, Jude 9*

*Over fallen demons, Rev 12:7; Matt 12:24-26*

*Over the physical realm; Job 2:7; Acts 10:38*

*Over the atmosphere, Job 1:16, 19*

*In human affairs*

Unsaved: Eph 2:2; 2 Cor 4:4; Matt 13:19; Rom 8:7-8

Saved: Eph 4:27; 3 Cor 2:11; James 3:14-17; Rev 2:9; 3:9; 1 Tim 4:1

**Barnacle on the hull**

## ***His methods***

"the schemes of the devil," Eph 6:11

He roars, 1 Peter 5:8

*Bitter, bloody suffering and persecution*

He is a dangerous wolf in sheep's clothing; Acts 20:29,30; Matt 13:38,39

He is s subtle, cunning snake; Gen 3:1

He is a beautiful angel of light; 2 Cor 11:14

Sometimes his tactics are furious, violent, ravaging

Sometimes they are subtle, underhanded, crooked, deceptive

### ***His methods at work***

To the recipients of Hebrews

*Outward, painful persecution*

To the saints at Corinth

*Devilish arrogance, immorality*

To the Galatian churches

*Dangerous doctrinal error*

To the Colossian believers

*Pagan philosophy*

To the recipients of James

*False wisdom, selfish agendas and strife*

To the believers in Laodicea

*Prosperity and peace*

### ***His agenda***

Thwart the advancement of God's work and render his saints ineffective

*Coldness, shipwrecked faith, fighting, self-centeredness*

*Hurt and slander you, bring disgrace to the cause of Christ*

**Don't trifle with him, take him seriously**

*His greatest victory may well be to keep saints spiritually drowsy*

**Romans 13:11-14**

**Did you know you are at war?**