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# **Why Do Lions Roar?**



# Mind-blowing principle

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**31** “Simon, Simon, behold, **Satan** has [**d**]demanded *permission* to sift you like wheat; **32** **but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.**” – Luke 22

Satan had to ask permission; he still does.  
Satan is limited and Jesus is LORD!!



# We Have Been Deceived

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- **Manicheanism** – very weird, heretical religious sect during 4th – 7<sup>th</sup> century AD.
- One major principle was **Dualism** – the notion that the universe is caught in a battle between two equal but diametrically opposing forces – Darkness vs Light (or Evil vs Goodness) and the supernatural beings that represent them
- Idea persists today – according to Dualism, the battle is still going on today and it is not clear at any point in time which side will win!
- **WRONG! It WAS FINISHED AT THE CROSS!!**



# Yes, There is Darkness

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- There is a wave of darkness and injustice and ungodliness rising up right now
- People are making bad decisions
- People are just doing what seems right in their own eyes – unbelievers AND believers
- We get sucked in, react in the FLESH, fear the devil is going to ruin God's plan
- Which is NUTS!! We need a **FAITH** response, not a Flesh Reaction



## Typical Human, Fleshly Response

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- <sup>54</sup> When His disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, “**Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?**” <sup>55</sup> But He turned and rebuked them, [c]and said, “You do not know what kind of spirit you are of;” <sup>56</sup> for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them.”] LUKE 9
- What Spirit do people see in you right now, in the midst of this crazy time? Fear or





## Warfare 101 – 1 Peter 5

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**<sup>8</sup> Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert.** Your adversary, the devil, prowls around **like a roaring lion**, seeking someone to devour. **<sup>9</sup> [d]But resist him, firm in *your* faith,** knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your [e]brethren who are in the world.



# Why Do Lions Roar?

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- They roar to communicate with each other
- They roar to proclaim their territory
- Roaring is also one of their strategies for catching prey ....
- They creep up on their prey and when they are close, they will let out a roar that creates confusion and fear, forces prey into making bad decisions
- So, whenever Satan approaches like a roaring lion, what is happening???





# Know Your Enemy

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- Satan – adversary, one who resists
- Devil – accuser, slanderer
- Liar, Father of lies, **truth is not in him**  
**and that is his BIG weapon**
- How you recognize it: if it produces fear, anger, depression, discouragement, hopelessness, helplessness, it is a LIE –
- Situations don't cause emotions. What you BELIEVE about a situation causes emotions. Lies bring fear. TRUTH brings freedom.



# And What is the Truth?

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- God says, FEAR NOT, for I AM with YOU.
- Lies trigger our emotions and we turn it upside down: we look at personal situations or current events through the eyes of fear/anger
- OH NO, The devil is on the move! What am I gonna do? We focus on the lies and freak
- We completely forget who we are in Jesus, and His promises, and that the enemy is already defeated, and that God is Sovereign



# Our Own Worst Enemy

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- We panic or react in the flesh and we become fear/anger sponges and we take that stuff in and meditate on it, and then we start spreading it around.
- So, as usual, the devil doesn't really have to do much besides push **our** buttons and then we do the rest of his work for him, by perpetuating his lies.



# Faster Than a Speeding Bullet

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- Romans 16:20 - For the report of your obedience has reached to all; therefore I am rejoicing over you, but I want you to be wise in what is good and innocent in what is evil. <sup>20</sup> **The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.**
- Gk "*en tachei*" with haste or speed; quickly
- In other words, when we focus on **faith and truth** instead of lies and fear, the plans of the enemy collapse instantly! JAB



# Resist Him, Firm in Your Faith

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- Resist – *antihistemi* – plant your feet and stand against, hold your ground, don't freak out and don't give up
- The liar, the adversary, the accuser uses manipulation and deception to try to get you stop doing whatever it is you know God has called you to do, He Roars at you
- You stand fast and stay faithful and focused on who you are in Jesus
- The Gates of Hell will not stand against you



# Because He is a Toothless Lion

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Martin Luther – “The devil has often raised a racket in the house and has tried to scare me, but I appealed to my calling and said, ‘I know that God has placed me into this house to be lord here. Now if you have a call that is stronger than mine and are lord here, then stay where you are. But I well know that you are not lord here and that you belong in a different place - down in hell.’ And so I fell asleep again and let him be angry, for I well knew that he could do **NOTHING** to me.”



# Jesus + Nothing = EVERYTHING

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- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY