**Section 5 C (All verses are from the NIV Bible translation unless otherwise noted)**

**Satan and demonic forces---another compelling reason we need to practice living by God’s life. Our trials and troubles, our sinful nature and our world system impacted by Satan and his demonic forces should convince us that we must live by God’s resources not our own.**

**Jesus through His death on the cross and resurrection has defeated and triumphed over Satan and his forces.** *Colossians 2:15* *And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

**Jesus is the Christian’s defense and authority over Satan and his forces. It is important to remember who we are, who lives in us and the goal of Jesus which is to destroy the works of Satan. Yet, even greater than our authority over Satan is that our names are registered in heaven.**

*1 John 4:4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.*

*1 John 3:8…The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.*

*John 14:12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.*

*Luke 10:17-20 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.”* ***18****He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.****19****I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.****20****However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”*

**Yet, it is still very important to remember our vast authority as a part of the body of Christ and our lofty position seated in heavenly places with Jesus who is far above all authority on heaven and earth. Our weapons of warfare are supernatural and the name of Jesus is powerful.**

*Ephesians 2:6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,*

*2 Corinthians 10:3-5 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does.****4****The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.* ***5****We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*

*Philippians 2:10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,*

*in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*

**As believers we are transferred from the kingdom of darkness to God’s kingdom of light. Jesus is our life source.**

*Colossians 1:13 -14**KJV Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:****14****In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:*

*Colossians 3: 1-3 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.****2****Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.****3****For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.*

**Our struggle is against unseen evil forces in heavenly realms**.**Satan is a created powerful being but with limited abilities compared to our infinitely powerful God. Yet, Satan has a highly sophisticated hierarchy to carry out his purpose on earth.**

 Ephesians 6:12 …*For our struggle is…against the spiritual forces in the heavenly realms.*

**Therefore, we are to put on the armor of God which is depending on Jesus as our life.**

*Ephesians 6 :10-11**Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.****11****Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.*

*Romans 13: 14* ***14****Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans%2013&version=NIV" \l "fen-NIV-28281c" \o "See footnote c)]*

**God’s word and the shield of faith are effective weapons we can use to defeat Satanic forces.** *Ephesian 6:16-17 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.****17****Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.*

**Good angelic hosts assist God in protecting and ministering to us.** *Psalm 91:9-12**If you say, “The Lord is my refuge,” and you make the Most High your dwelling,****10****no harm will overtake you,  no disaster will come near your tent.****11****For he will command his angels concerning you  to guard you in all your ways;****12****they will lift you up in their hands,  so that you will not strike your foot against a stone*.

**We have God’s protection against Satan. Satan wanted to sift Peter but Jesus prayed for him . The Holy Spirit and Jesus intercede for us as well.**

*Luke 22:31-32* ***31****“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat.****32****But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”*

*Romans 8:26-27 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.****27****And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God.*

*Romans 8:34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us*

[*John 17:15*](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/John/17/15)*"I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one.*

[*2 Thessalonians 3:3*](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/2-Thessalonians/3/3) *But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.*

**One of the major goals of our enemy Satan is to move believers from a mindset of child- like dependency and trust in Jesus.**

*2 Corinthians 11:2-3 I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.****3****But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent’s cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.*

**Jesus is to be our life expressing Himself through each of us in a unique way. Jesus wants our loving relationship with Him to be preeminent even over our good works. Satan would try to move us to be works orientated instead of making our relationship with God preeminent.**

*Revelation 2:2-5 I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary…* ***4****Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first.****5****Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.*

**The possible origin of Satan and his demonic forces? Isaiah 14:12-15, Ezekiel 28:13-17**

**It appears Satan was a high ranking sinless, beautiful angelic host before his fall. His downfall was pride. Satan wanted to become God.**

**Satan and his demonic forces have the goal of deceiving the whole world.**

[*Revelation 12:7-9*](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/Revelation/12/7) *And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon The dragon and his angels waged war, and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.*

*Revelation 12:12* *"For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time."*

**Satan and his demonic forces ultimate destination is hell along with those who reject Jesus. M**atthew 25:41 … *into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.*

*Revelation 20: 14-15* ***14****And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.* ***15****And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

**Satan’s names and character traits**

**Biblical names often denote the character of the person. Satan means adversary. Devil means slanderer. Another name for Satan is belial which means worthless.**

**Satan is murderer and liar.**

*John 8:44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

**Satan is a thief and destroyer.**

*John 10 :10**The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy…*

[*1 Peter 5:8-9*](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/1-Peter/5/8) *Be of sober spirit, be on the alert Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.*

**Satan has a wide latitude of power if permitted by God. Satan was able to inflict loss of possessions, family, and physical health of Job but only as permitted by God.**

*Job 1:8-22* *and Job 2:3-10*

**He is a deceiver.**

*2 Corinthians 11:3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20corinthians%2011:1-3&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-28993a)*] that is in Christ. NKJV*

**He is a tempter**

*Matthew 4:1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matthew4&version=NIV#fen-NIV-23211a)*]by the devil.*

**Satan’s goal is to oppose God’s work, purposes, God’s people and prevent unbelievers from having a personal relationship with God.**

**He snatches word of God from hearts.**

*Mark 4:15 Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them.*

**Satan blinds minds of unbelievers**.

2 Corinthians 4:4In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

**Satan is the accuser of the believers.**

*Revelation 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.*

**False doctrine of every sort is the work of Satan and his demonic host to move off of a simple life of faith and trust in Jesus. Satan will attempt to distort through false doctrine even the blessings in life that God intended for us to enjoy.**

*1 Timothy 4: 1-5 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.****2****Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.****3****They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.****4****For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be* *rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,****5****because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.*

**Corrupt doctrine is often presented in a deceptive way as if by a messenger of God.**

*2 Corinthians 11:13-15**For such people are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ.****14****And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.****15****It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.*

**The variation of false teaching impacting a Christian is endless but often is found in the extremes of legalism or licentiousness. Legalism encourages us to achieve God’s righteous life by rules, regulations and human self- effort. Licentiousness abuses God’s grace by encouraging us to do whatever we want and whatever feels good. Both move us off the goal of trusting in God to cooperate with His plan of expressing His resurrection life in us.**

**Satan will attempt to entice us to try to live the Christian life by human self- effort independent of the power of the Holy Spirit. The strength of sin is in the law because of the weakness of our sinful nature. The purpose of the law is to convict us of sin.**

*1 Corinthians 15: 56-57 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.****57****But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Galatians 2:21-3:5* **21***I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!”[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians2:21-3:5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29103a)*]* ***3****You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified.****2****I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard?****3****Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians2:21-3:5&version=NIV" \l "fen-NIV-29106b" \o "See footnote b)]****4****Have you experienced[*[*c*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians2:21-3:5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29107c)*] so much in vain—if it really was in vain?****5****So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?*

**Satan’s authority and the world system.**

**The source of worldly wisdom is Satanic. The attributes of Satan, the world and our sinful nature align perfectly. Therefore, we are very susceptible to temptation.**

*James 3:14-15* ***14****But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth.****15****Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.*

**Satan is god of this world.**

*1 John 5 :19… the whole world is under the control of the evil one.*

**Non- believers are under the dominion of Satan.**

*Ephesians 2: 1-3 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,****2****in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.****3****All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians%202:1-3&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29233a)*] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.*

 **Satan’s world is dominated by the lust of flesh, eyes and the pride of life**.

*1 John 2: 15-16* ***15****Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father[*[*d*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20John%202&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30566d)*] is not in them.****16****For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.*

**Satan’s world system attempts to exclude Jesus as the true Savior of mankind yet he promotes religious systems which deny the deity of Jesus, Jesus’s atoning death for our sins and His resurrection from the dead.**

*2 Peter 2:1 But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive* *heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves.*

**The source of the occult is demonic and should be avoided by Christians.**

***Deuteronomy 18:10-13* “*There shall not be found among you anyone who makes His son or daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures up spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord, and because of these abominations the Lord your God drives them out from before you. You shall be blameless before the Lord your God.”)***

**Our sinful nature is the source of Satan’s temptation.**

*James 1:13-14* ***13****When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone;****14****but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.*

**Unresolved anger can give Satan a foothold.**

 *Ephesians 4: 26-27* ***26****“In your anger do not sin”[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians%204&version=NIV" \l "fen-NIV-29299d" \o "See footnote d)]: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry,****27****and do not give the devil a foothold.*

**Pride and ungodly life can lead to a snare by the devil.** *1 Timothy 3:5-7* ***5****(for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);****6****not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.****7****Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. NKJV*

**Unrepentant habitual sinful behavior including bitterness, resentment and unforgiveness can possibly lead to demonic oppression in a believer’s life.**

Matthew 18:34-35 ***34****In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.****35****“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”*

*2 Corinthians 2:10-11 Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake,****11****in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.*

*Hebrews 12:15 See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.*

**God’s way of deliverance for Satan’s snares and areas of bondage.**

**As God’s child because of Jesus, we have access to the throne of God for mercy and grace even when we have fallen into sin.**

*Hebrews 4:16* *Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

**Repent and submit our will to God and resist the devil and he will flee**.

James 4:7-8 **7***Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.****8****Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.*

**Therefore, it is important to keep our bodily temple cleansed by the blood of Jesus of any known sin revealed to us by the Holy Spirit so God can effectively work through us.**

 1 John 1:9 **9***If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

2 Timothy 2 :21 *Those who cleanse themselves from the latter(wickedness) will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.*

2 Corinthians7:1 *Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.*

**Satanic forces will resist us when we seek to do God’s work and live a Godly life.**

*2 Timothy 3: 12. In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted…*

*1 Thessalonians 2:18 For we wanted to come to you—certainly I, Paul, did, again and again—but Satan blocked our way.*

*2Corinthians 12:9 But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.*

**We can participate in God’s intercessory ministry by allowing God to lead us in prayer and fasting for ourselves and others to be delivered from evil and attacks of the enemy.**

*Matthew 6:13 And lead us not into temptation,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew6:13&version=NIV" \l "fen-NIV-23296a" \o "See footnote a)] but deliver us from the evil one.[*[*b*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew6:13&version=NIV#fen-NIV-23296b)*]’*

*Ephesians 6:18 18**And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.*

*Mark 9:29And he(Jesus) said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.*

**Hopefully, we can see in our own power we are no match for Satan and his forces but with Jesus living in and through us there is great hope and the possibility of living victoriously in a fallen world by His power not our own. Jesus is faithful and true to protect us from all evil and temptations as we trust in Him.**