

2026-04-08 Points

Title: Standing Guard Against the Enemy: Recognizing Satan's Tactics

Sermon Summary: This sermon delivers a sobering examination of Satan's reality and his active warfare against believers. The speaker emphasizes that modern society suffers from two critical problems: not believing God's Word is real and not believing Satan is truly evil. Drawing parallels to a WWII sabotage manual, the message reveals how Satan operates through subtle, gradual tactics rather than obvious attacks. The sermon explores four primary avenues of satanic attack—blindness, worldly pleasures, lies, and isolation—while providing biblical strategies for spiritual defense. The core theological insight is that Satan's sole purpose is to steal, kill, and destroy, but believers have access to God's power, the Holy Spirit, and Christian community to combat these attacks. The message culminates with a call to authentic Christian fellowship, accountability, and recognition that knowing the enemy's tactics is essential for spiritual survival.

Key Points:

- Satan is real, active, and his only job is to steal, kill, and destroy
- Satan operates like a roaring lion: intimidating, isolating, and striking when prey is vulnerable
- Satan uses subtle sabotage tactics similar to WWII resistance strategies—gradual, hard to trace, appearing accidental
- Four primary avenues of attack: spiritual blindness, worldly pleasures, lies, and isolation
- Spiritual blindness causes people to justify sin, let culture dictate morality, and have hardened hearts
- Worldly pleasures manifest through lust of the flesh (I feel it and want it), lust of the eyes (I see it and want it), and pride of life (superiority and self-sufficiency)
- Satan is the "father of lies" who twists God's Word by asking "Did God really say?"
- Isolation combined with shame creates a deadly spiral that can lead to despair and suicide
- Combat strategies include: surrounding yourself with strong believers (mat

carriers), practicing gratitude, soaking in God's Word, and maintaining Christian fellowship

- The most dangerous words a person can say are "I got this"—pride blocks us from receiving help
- God has removed our shame through Christ—there is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus

Scripture Reference:

- 1 Peter 5:8 - "Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour"
- John 10:10 - "The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. I have come that they may have life and to have it to the full"
- 2 Corinthians 4:4 - "The God of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers"
- 1 Timothy 4:2 - "Such teachings come through hypocritical liars whose consciences have been seared with a hot iron"
- Ephesians 4:18-19 - Hardening of hearts and darkened understanding
- 1 John 2:15-16 - "Do not love the world or anything in the world...the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life"
- John 8:44 - "He is a liar and the father of all lies"
- Genesis 3:1 - "Did God really say?"
- Isaiah 59:2 - Sin separates us from God
- Romans 8:1 - "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus"
- Hebrews 10:25 - "Do not give up meeting together"

Stories:

- The speaker's personal experience with his wild son, where he rebuked demons in Jesus' name and saw immediate calmness
- The 1944 CIA Simple Sabotage Field Manual story, illustrating how subtle workplace disruption mirrors Satan's tactics of gradual, unnoticed destruction
- The speaker's conversation with his atheist neighbor who dismissed biblical accounts
- Reference to the mat carriers who brought the paralyzed man to Jesus, tearing through the roof to lower him down (Mark 2)

- Jesus' temptation in the wilderness where He combated Satan's lies with Scripture
- Adam and Eve hiding from God in shame after their sin
- Jesus choosing twelve disciples as an example of not doing ministry alone