

Gleaners Bible Studies B 12

SATAN

Study 1

Satan and His Work Personality



**Isaiah 14: 12-15; Job 1: 6-7;
Matthew 4: 8-11;
Revelation 20: 1-3.**

How much do you know about Satan? In the minds of many people today he is just a myth, a figure of fun with horns, a forked tail and trident! Even as Christians, it is possible for us to fail to take him seriously. Yet to all who would live for the Lord Jesus Christ, he is **ENEMY NUMBER ONE**. These studies are going to deal with the subject of Satan and his work. The Scriptures tell us much about him and we want you to study them carefully. For whatever we say in these notes, by far the most important part of your work must be in studying the Scriptures themselves. so that you will really get a grasp of what the Bible says about Satan.

Satan is a PERSON. This is where we must begin in our thinking. He is not just some abstract influence, and I am sure that Satan wants to remain anonymous. He does not want to be recognised for who he really is. The more he can confuse and baffle people as to his existence – or lack of it – the more satisfied he will be. For obviously, if a person does not exist, then there is no need to fear him – he can have no influence over our lives. By convincing people that he does not exist, Satan is blinding them to the fact of his own evil power in their lives.

The Lord Jesus certainly believed in Satan's existence and repeatedly warned His hearers of his activities. So what kind of person is Satan? We cannot actually see him at work, nor fully define him in human terms, yet all around us we can see evidence of his activity. Let us turn then to our Scripture readings and learn that we are dealing with a very real person when we meet Satan at work.

1. He is NAMED.

Right throughout the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, this evil person is given names. These names tell us much about his character. In **Genesis 3: 1; Revelation 12: 9 and 20: 2** he is called **the Serpent**. His cunning is described under that name and we always remember him in Eden as the great deceiver of Eve. In **Job 1: 6-8 and Matthew 4: 10** he is called **Satan**. This name is given to him no less than 49 times in the Bible. (see also **Zechariah 3: 1-2** and **2 Corinthians 12: 7**) It means 'adversary' or 'enemy'. One who is against, or opposed to us. It is obvious from each of these Scriptures that, that is just what he is. Then 34 times he is called **the devil**. You will notice that Jesus was led into the wilderness to be **"tempted by the devil"** – **Matthew 4: 1**. The meaning of this name is 'accuser' or 'slanderer' and the devil is directly referred to as **"the accuser of our brethren"** in **Revelation 12: 10**. Some of the other names by which he is called are:

"Tempter" – **Matthew 4: 3; 1 Thessalonians 3: 5**

"Wicked One" – **Matthew 13: 19; 1 John 2: 13-14; 5: 18**

"Liar" and **"Father of Lies"** – **John 8: 44**

"Murderer" – **John 8: 44**

"Thief" - **John 10: 10**

"Wolf" – **John 10: 12**

"Roaring Lion" – **1 Peter 5: 8**

"Ruler of this world" – **John 12: 31, 14: 30, 16: 11**

"God of this age" – **2 Corinthians 4: 4**

"Prince of the power of the air" – **Ephesians 2: 2**

"Angel of light" – **2 Corinthians 11: 14**

From this list of names and many others which you will no doubt discover for yourselves, we can see that Satan is the author and master of everything that is evil.

2. He is a CREATED BEING.

Having established Satan's existence, you may now be asking the questions 'Where did he come from? What are his origins?' We will see from **Isaiah 14: 12-17** that Satan was not always Satan. He, like all the other angelic beings, was created perfect. He became Satan by will. Some writers think that he began on earth as its prince. Among his duties was the responsibility of bringing earth's worship into the presence of God. Between the greatness of this power and the extreme beauty of his person, he chose to oppose God, resulting in his spiritual fall and the subsequent fall of one third of the angelic world. (See **Isaiah 14: 12-17; Ezekiel 28: 11-19; Revelation 12: 4**) So we have the picture of this great and beautiful being, Lucifer, son of the morning, rising up in his pride against God. Notice what he said, **"I will ascend into Heaven. I will exalt my throne above the stars of God ... I will ascend above the heights of the clouds. I will be like the Most High"**. (**Isaiah 14: 13-14**) For this sin of pride and self-will he was cast down and many angelic beings who supported him in rebellion were cast down with him. (See **2 Peter 2: 4; Jude 6**)

3. He acts as a PERSON.

From **Job 1: 6-12** and **Job 2: 1-7**, it is obvious that Satan has the ability to act. He can hear what is said, speak, reason and consider, scheme and plan and walk to and fro. We have already seen him speaking to the Lord Jesus in the wilderness. (**Matthew 4**) In **Luke 22**, Peter declares his willingness to die with the Lord Jesus and Jesus has to warn him of his danger. **"Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat"**. (**Verse 31**) Because he was created as an angelic being, Satan is greater than man in power (**2 Peter 2: 11; Hebrews 2: 6-7 & 9**), needing no rest and he is able to travel at speeds comparable to lightning. (**Ezekiel 1: 14**) He is always at work as we have already seen from such passages as **Genesis 3, Job 1 & 2; Matthew 4** and **Luke 22: 31**. But as he is not omnipresent, he cannot be everywhere at the same time so he needs a host of helpers. (**Ephesians 6: 12**)

One of Satan's main targets in the world today is the Christian because each born again believer in the Lord Jesus represents 'lost ground' as far as Satan is concerned. In **Colossians 1: 13** we read that God has **"delivered us from the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of His love"**. By our lives we should be proclaiming that we have been redeemed and forgiven through His blood. Satan's work is to render us ineffective by leading us into sinful ways again and he will use every wile at his disposal in order to accomplish this purpose. If you are going to be victorious as a Christian it is essential that you recognise Satan for who he really is. 'Know your enemy' was the old army motto. By studying the Scriptures we too can know our enemy, be alert to his strategies and take the necessary steps to put him to flight. We have a personal ENEMY, but praise God we also have a personal, more powerful, SAVIOUR!

Study 2

Purposes

Read

**Genesis 3: 1-14;
Matthew 4: 1-11; Luke 4: 1-14**

We have already established from the Scriptures, the existence and personality of Satan; and perhaps now we are asking the question 'Why?' 'What was the purpose behind Satan's rebellion and what is his present work?' The answer to these questions can be summed up in one word POWER. If you look again at *Isaiah 14* you will see some of the purposes that were in Lucifer's mind. Notice what he said in *verses 13-14* "**I will ascend... I will exalt my throne ... I will ascend ... I will be like the Most High.**" He wanted to be as God. He wanted to usurp God's authority – to dethrone God. He wanted the control and dominion of the universe to be in his hands. He wanted for himself what rightly belonged to God as Creator. He wanted the worship and homage of his fellow creatures. "**I will ascend ... I will exalt my throne**". In any kingdom, rebellion has to be dealt with immediately and firmly. God acted in holy and righteous judgment against Lucifer whose evil designs were thus thwarted and he and his followers were cast out of Heaven.

Since that time Satan's purpose has been to spoil or destroy everything that God has done, or purposes to do. His present interest in the human race is wrapped up in his personal ambitions to achieve domination of the universe. Barred from Heaven, his energies are concentrated on the earth and its inhabitants.

We are going to look at Satan's purposes from three angles – 1. Satan and God; 2. Satan and the Lord Jesus; 3. Satan and Me.

1. SATAN AND GOD.

Genesis 3 gives us a good insight into the intentions of Satan with regard to God. Adam and Eve were the culmination of God's creative work – Man in the image of God. God looked at His work and pronounced Himself satisfied – "**indeed it was very good**" *Genesis 1: 31*. Everything was perfect. But the perpetuation of that perfection rested on the sustained obedience of that first man and woman to God. This principle still stands, 'God's will must be obeyed if His work is to be done.' Satan, I am sure, recognised this, and used this very principle to his own advantage. He attacked God's creation at its highest point. Notice the cunning way in which he does it! First, he challenges the authority and truth of God's words by saying, "**has God indeed said?**" (*Genesis 3: 1*)

Have you ever wondered about the tone of voice used by Satan here? I have! I am inclined to think it was tinged with just the right amount of incredulity to make Eve think that she had been rather silly and naïve to believe it. After all, no woman likes to admit she's been stupid, or has been 'taken in', especially to such a gorgeous creature as the serpent then was! (Satan must have been the first to hold a Master's degree in psychology!) Having got the wedge in, Satan gives it a smart tap by boldly contradicting God's word. "**You will NOT surely die.**" (*Genesis 3: 4*) Then with the air of one of great knowledge and experience, who is doing her a kindness by sharing confidential information, Satan drives the wedge firmly home by dangling the promise of power within Eve's grasp. "**For God knows,**" he confides, "**that in the day you eat it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God**". (*Genesis 3: 5*) And Eve looks, desires wisdom, takes and eats and shares with Adam ... and they knew ... and they hid. What a tragedy!

Oh yes! Satan's cunning was masterly! No wonder Eve fell for it. The desire for power and authority lies dormant within us all. Time and again down through history it has raised its ugly head leaving in its wake a trail of suffering and sorrow. 'If I ruled the world' has become an obsession with more than one. We only need to think of Alexander the Great or Hitler to realise that this is true. And it will continue to be so until the end of time, culminating in world domination by the Anti-Christ. Thus this encounter in the Garden of Eden was a great victory for Satan in his revolt against God's supremacy, and left within its wake a trail of sin, sorrow, suffering, and death. Satan is still at work today, casting doubt on God's Word. Make sure you defeat his efforts in this area, by standing firm on what God has said.

2. SATAN AND THE LORD JESUS.

What does Satan plan in regard to the person and work of the Lord Jesus? Away back in *Genesis chapter 3* after Satan's encounter with Eve, God pronounced judgement on the serpent and promised that a Redeemer would come. (*Genesis 3: 15*) When the birth of Christ set Heaven ringing with the news of a Saviour who had been born, Satan laid his plans to kill the child redeemer through the instrumentality of Herod. There followed the slaughter of the innocents and a great mourning in Bethlehem, but the child Jesus is safely hidden in Egypt.

In his encounter with Jesus in the wilderness, Satan, as the "**Prince of this world,**" offered Jesus the 'short-cut' to *Revelation 5: 13-14*. Showing Him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them, Satan said, "**All these things I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.**" (*Matthew 4: 9*) Jesus uses the Word of God as a sharp sword to defeat His foe. Notice again, in this encounter, Satan's great cunning. He taunts Jesus with the challenge, "**If you are the Son of God**" (*Matthew 4: 3&6*) He knew full well who Jesus was but with each temptation he used a different arrow to try to destroy the greatness of the Lord Jesus. From the natural realm, there would be bread; from the spiritual realm, angelic protection; and from the kingly realm, universal homage. When all had failed, the devil left Him, but only for a while.

A storm on a lake, when Jesus was asleep in a boat, proved equally ineffective against the Son of God, Ruler of the wind and waves. Satan had no power over the Lord Jesus but he didn't give up. Even at Calvary, when the Lord was dying, Satan renewed his attempts to thwart the purposes of God. "**Let Christ, the King of Israel, descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe.**" was the cry of wicked men. (*Mark 15: 32*) Their taunt of "**He saved others, Himself He cannot save**" was SO true, for HE had to die in order that others might live. Through His death and glorious resurrection, we know that Jesus completed the work God gave Him to do and defeated forever the purposes of Satan. (See *Hebrews 2: 14-15*; and *1 John 3: 8*)

3. SATAN AND ME.

What does Satan plan to do in your life and mine? I think we could sum it up by saying that he will try to UNDO and thwart everything that Christ is seeking to DO in us and for us. Study the comparisons below between Christ's work and Satan's work. Turn up the relevant Scriptures and read them carefully.

Jesus' Work is to:

1. Reveal Truth. *John 1: 17; 14: 6; 18: 37-38.*
2. Give Life. *John 5: 24; 10: 10; 14: 6.*
3. Produce Spiritual Fruit. *John 15: 1-8 & 16; Galatians 5: 22-23.*
4. Set Free. *John 8: 36.*
5. Destroy Satan's Works. *Hebrews 2: 14; 1 John 3: 8-10.*

Satan's Work is to:

1. Conceal truth. *Mark 4: 1-15; John 8: 44; Acts 5: 4; 2 Corinthians 4: 3-4, 11: 3 & 14-15; 1 Timothy 4: 1; Revelation 12: 9.*
2. Take life. *John 8: 44, 10: 10; 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13; 1 Peter 5: 8; Revelation 9: 11.*
3. Produce Fleshly Fruit. *Romans 1: 21 & 32; Galatians 5: 19-21; Ephesians 2: 1-13, 4: 25-27; 1 Timothy 5: 9 -14.*
4. Ensnare. *2 Corinthians 2: 6-11; 1 Timothy 3: 6-7; 2 Timothy 2: 24-26; 1 Thessalonians 2: 18.*
5. Destroy Jesus' Works. *Luke 4: 1-13.*

Only through the Lord Jesus Christ and His power can Satan's plan for our lives be defeated. Skillfully using the Word of God will put Satan and our foes to flight.

Study 3

Power

Read

**2 Corinthians 4: 1-6;
1 Peter 5: 8-11; Hebrews 2: 12-15**

We have already said that Satan has great power, and an even greater desire for more power. When we consider the effects of his work in the world, we are bound to realise this. (**1 John 5: 19**) Try and imagine for a moment, just what our world would be like without the presence of sin or evil. Now compare that with what it is like today and you will perhaps get a faint idea of the magnitude of his power. Satan is powerful indeed – but not ALL powerful. He is permitted to do many things in people's lives, but he does not have unlimited power. For example:

He **cannot** inflict diseases on God's people without God's permission – **Job 1: 10 & 12**.

He **cannot** cause the death of God's people without God's permission – **Job 2: 6, Hebrews 2: 14**.

He **cannot** touch believers - **Job 1: 10-12; Luke 22: 31-32; 1 John 5: 18** unless they allow him entrance - **Ephesians 4: 27; 1 Peter 5: 7-9**.

What is more, he **cannot** even stay when properly resisted – **James 4: 7**.

How thankful we can be that Satan's power is limited. Only God is almighty. This is why, when facing evil, we DO need to trust our lives into God's care. Although we are weak and failing, He is strong and unfailing. James goes on to say in **4: 8** **"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."**

But in considering the power of Satan, we must realise that he never gives up. Of course he is not interested in those who do not really want to live for Christ. A half-hearted Christian is reckoned by Satan to be as good as won. But immediately you decide to follow Christ fully, the battle begins. Remember that Satan has centuries of experience in dealing with human weaknesses. He has studied well all the moves and he knows where he can best succeed. He knows our 'weak spots' better than we know them ourselves and never fails to take advantage of them. When Paul was writing to the Corinthian Christians he spoke of Satan gaining an advantage over them. He says, **"We are not ignorant of his devices."** (**2 Corinthians 2: 11**) Satan has his well-trying methods of attack. They are both varied and well planned according to the person whom he seeks to destroy.

Let us look now at some of the features of Satan's power, especially in relation to Christian living. It is very important to realise at this point that if you HAVE failed in your Christian life and feel Satan is too strong for you, you need not despair. **1 John 4: 4** speaks of 'overcoming' and says, **"He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world"**. If the Lord Jesus indwells your heart and life, then you possess, through the Holy Spirit, a power that is greater than any power that Satan can ever use. You CAN have VICTORY.

1. SATAN'S POWER TO DECEIVE. 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6

Look too at **2 Corinthians 11: 3 & 13-14**. Satan is capable of using his power to deceive people in many ways. Notice that he is called the **"god of this age"**. If people do not know God, the true God, then Satan is their god. It is his purpose to blind people to the wonderful things that God can do for them. He is the great Deceiver, and if necessary he can fashion himself into an angel of light. Satan wants to darken our minds to the things that are real and true. But the light which shines into our minds and hearts through fellowship with the Lord Jesus is much more powerful than the strength of Satan's deception.

2. SATAN'S POWER TO DEVOUR. 1 Peter 5: 8.

Satan's power can be violent and vicious. He determines to overthrow all that is good and pure in life. In **John 10: 10** Jesus spoke of him as the thief, who came only to steal, kill and destroy. The results of his work are never for the benefit of people – only for their destruction. In **1 Peter 5: 8** he is pictured as a **"roaring**

lion". Compare this with the previous picture of him as an **"angel of Light"** and you will see how changeable and convincing his disguises can be, to suit every situation. That is why Peter calls upon Christians to be vigilant and prayerful because of Satan's power in this way. There are many examples of the way in which Satan demonstrates his power. There is perhaps no better illustration than that of Job. Satan took away every mortal thing that Job had. He could not touch his life but, but he gave Job a dreadful time. So it is with us at times. Satan really hurts us through his temptations and trials. How we need to take to ourselves Peter's injunction. **"Resist him, steadfast in the faith"**. (**1 Peter 5: 9**)

3. SATAN'S POWER TO DESTROY. Hebrews 2: 14-15.

When we study the works of Satan we soon realise that the greatest weapon that he has is death. To Eve he said, **"You will not surely die"**. (**Genesis 3: 4**) This was an outright denial of all that God had said. No wonder the Lord Jesus said that the Devil was **"a liar and the father of lies."** (**John 8: 44**) Our Scripture tells us that he is the one who has the power of death. Having once introduced sin into the human race, death automatically followed. (**Romans 5: 12**) This includes not only physical death, but also what is far worse, spiritual death. This 'second death' is eternal separation from God in hell, but through His death, as the great sinless Saviour, the Lord Jesus conquered death and destroyed him who had its power. Because Jesus is alive, Satan is a defeated foe. Death will eventually be utterly destroyed. (**1 Corinthians 15: 26**)

4. CHRIST AND SATAN'S POWER. 1 John 3: 4-12.

We are going to end this study on a happy note! I am glad I am a Christian because the Saviour whom I follow and serve is victorious. Can you say this? Our passage tells us that Jesus, the Son of God, once appeared in our world to destroy the works of the Devil! Satan is strong – but Christ is stronger! Satan is Doomed to Disaster! How do we know this?

- Ever since Satan's fall, he has been judged, and he will one day be sentenced to the eternal fire, which is presently prepared for him and his angels. (**Matthew 25: 41**)
- Jesus Christ came for the expressed purpose of destroying his works. (**1 John 3: 8 and Hebrews 2: 14**)
- On the Cross, Jesus made an open show of triumph over Satan's host. (**Colossians 2: 15 and John 12: 31**)
- Satan's doom is soon to occur. (**Romans 16: 20**)
- At the second coming of Christ, Satan and his host will be cast into the abyss for 1,000 years. At the end of this time they will be released for one short and final period. Then they will be cast into the lake of fire. (**Revelation 20 : 1 & 7-10**) Yes! The Lord Jesus is stronger than our strongest foe. No sin is too great, no evil habit too strong, no temptation too irresistible for the power of the Lord Jesus to deal with.

Study 4

Perils

Read

**2 Corinthians 11: 1-4 and 13-15;
Ephesians 6: 10-20**

In this closing study we are going to consider those dangers which beset us as Christians because of who and what Satan is. I chose the passage in **Ephesians** for your reading because it draws back the curtain a little on the kind of forces we have to fight against.

We can summarise these under three main headings:

1. Authority.

Notice they are **"principalities and powers, the rulers of the darkness of this age"**. (**Ephesians 6: 12**) Unseen, powerful agents of Satan have power and authority to control men's lives and carry out Satan's evil schemes.

2. Atmosphere.

The location of these powers is **"in the heavenly places"**. (**Ephesians 6: 12**) We little realise at times, that there are spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places. But it is wonderful to remind our hearts that when the Lord Jesus ascended back to His Father in Heaven, He passed right through the domain of Satan

and his hosts. They had no power to stop Him. He is the absolute victor over Satan. Yet we also need to remember that these evil powers still strive to hinder our fellowship with God.

3. Activity.

We realise also that evil powers are not dormant or passive – they are immensely active. We read here of the “*wiles of the devil.*” (*Ephesians 6: 11*). We read of our need to “*stand in the evil day.*” (*verse 13*) Notice also the “*fiery darts of the wicked one.*” (*verse 16*) We face the dangers of an active enemy who is continuously on the move day and night. He is tireless in his energy and activity.

As Christians there are three great dangers we can slip into with regard to Satan and his work.

1. COMPLACENCY

‘It could never happen to me.’ ‘I would never do that!’ I hope as a believer you do enjoy your Christian life and that great joy fills your heart because the Lord Jesus Christ is your Saviour. But it is all too easy to become complacent and careless in Christian living. That is why Peter warns us to be sober (or careful) and vigilant (or watchful) because of the lion-like activities of Satan. There is no room for spiritual slumber in our lives as we follow Christ. For it is when we are least aware of his activities that Satan is at his busiest. The Lord Jesus, when in the Garden of Gethsemane, urged His disciples to “*Watch and pray lest you enter into temptation.*” (*Matthew 26: 41*) Satan waits for the unguarded moments in the Christian’s life and then he attacks. Watch out!

2. COMPROMISE

So often today, particularly from young people, you hear the plea, ‘Where’s the harm in it? Everybody else does it!’ You know the sort of attitude, don’t you? Christians dabbling in ‘grey areas’. But we cannot play with wrong things and expect to live victorious Christian lives. My life is either right or wrong. “*You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy,*” says the Lord. (*Leviticus 11: 45b*) Paul tells us to, “*Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.*” (*Romans 12: 9*) To Timothy he says that we have been called “*with an holy calling.*” (*2 Timothy 1: 9*) We need to take a firm and definite stand when dealing with Satan and all that he stands for. The way of compromise inevitably leads to disaster.

3. CONFUSION.

I suggested reading *2 Corinthians 11* because it does show that one of the devil’s weapons is to sow confusion in the minds of believers. We read of false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into “*apostles of Christ.*” (*verse 13*) *1 Timothy 4: 1* warns us against “*deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.*” Satan will use counterfeits to lead us away from the truth, and emotional experiences to lead us into error. There is great danger today because so many false teachings abound. We need to study our Bibles and become strong in truth; as good workmen “*rightly dividing the word of truth.*” (*2 Timothy 2: 15*) Otherwise we could easily become confused in our minds and thereby be an easy prey to the devil.

Yes, dangers there are! What shall we do? “*Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD.*” Study each piece of the armour carefully in *Ephesians 6: 13-18*. Notice what each piece represents. One thing is certain, each piece of the armour is essential – nothing is superfluous.

But perhaps you are thinking, ‘Well that is all right in theory, but how can I put all these things into practice? How can I defeat Satan in my life?’ Perhaps the following summary of what we have said will be helpful to you.

- Recognise that the Lord Jesus came into this world for the expressed purpose of defeating Satan. (*Hebrews 2: 14; 1 John 3: 8-10*) Christ IS the Victor. You need not worry, for greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. (*1 John 4: 4*)
- Cast all your cares upon God, become stabilised mentally by reading His Word, and be watchful of your thoughts and speech.

(1 Peter 5: 7-9)

- Allow no room in your life for his entry. (*Ephesians 4: 27*)
- Submit yourself to God and resist (stand fast against) the devil by declaring God’s Word as your sole source for authority and practice. (*James 4: 7*)
- Do not be ignorant of his devices and strategies. (*2 Corinthians 2: 11*) and ask God for insight into his activity in your life.
- Put on the whole armour of God piece by piece. (*Ephesians 6: 10-18*)
- Confess all known sins having them removed by the blood of Christ. (*1 John 1: 7 & 9; Revelation 12: 11*)
- Do not accept any mediocre walk with Christ as normal. Banish Satan from any hold on your power for Christian living.
- Bring every thought into control so that they all obey Christ. (*2 Corinthians 10: 3-5 ; Philippians 4: 6-9*)
- Flee from temptations. (*1 Timothy 6: 11 and 2 Timothy 2: 22*) and stay in the core of spiritual fellowship. (*Proverbs 19 : 27 and Acts 2: 42-47*) This is the surest way to defeat Satan and his hosts.

We trust that these studies have been a help to you and that as a result you will experience afresh “Victory in Jesus!”

Questions

Study 1: PERSONALITY

- What are the two names used most frequently in the Bible when referring to the Christian’s Enemy No. 1?
 - What do these names mean?
- What is Satan’s most cunning strategy in relation to people of the world?
- State briefly the origin of Satan. Give at least one reference to support your answer.
- Why is the Christian Satan’s chief target in the world today?
- If we want our lives to be victorious as Christians what is important for us to know and recognise?

Study 2: PURPOSES

- What was the purpose behind Lucifer’s rebellion?
 - What has Satan’s purpose been since he was cast out of Heaven?
- On what did the perpetuation of Eden’s perfection rest?
 - In what way can this same principle be applied today?
- ‘The desire for power and authority lies dormant within us all’ Use examples to show that this has been true from the beginning of the world, and will be so until the end of time.
- Name two occasions in the life of the Lord Jesus when Satan tried to destroy Him.
- Name two present-day works of Satan which are in direct contrast to the work of the Lord Jesus. Give references.

Study 3: POWER

- Give two examples to show that although Satan is very powerful, his power is NOT unlimited.
- Why is Satan such a dangerous enemy to those who have decided to follow Christ fully?
- What encouragement can we get from *1 John 4* in connection with our fight against Satan?
- What is Satan’s greatest weapon?
 - How can we be protected from it?
- What will Satan’s final end be?

Study 4: PERILS

- Why must we allow no room for spiritual slumber in our lives as we follow Christ?
- Why do we need to take a firm and definite stand when dealing with Satan?
- Why is it so necessary for us to study our Bibles and become strong in the truth?
- What is the Christian’s armour? Name each piece.
- What lesson have you learnt through these studies which you think will be of most help to you in your battle against Satan?