

# The Way of the World Is Evil

## Unmasking the Ways of Satan

### I Peter 5:6-9

With all the enjoyable things we have available to us and with the generally safe environment in which we live, we are apt to lose our sensitivity to evil. We still are touched and frightened by the more heinous appearances of evil, but common sinfulness might well fly under our radar. Satan, however, remains a crafty, powerful adversary. The world continues to follow its prince in a lifestyle contrary to God (Eph. 2:1-2; Jn. 12:31).

#### The World: Loved, But Sinful

- God has a great love for the world (Jn. 3:16)
- The world God loves is, however, a sinful world (I Jn. 2:15)
- Concerning such things, we should mourn, but we should also rise to the proclamation of the Good News.

#### Satan is Real!

- He is like a lion seeking prey (I Pet. 5:6-9)
- He is furious over Jesus' victory and wants to ravage God's people (Rev. 12:7-17)
- He must be resisted, even in trial (I Pet. 5:9-11)
- When resisted, the Devil will flee, if we are in submission to God (Jas. 4:7-10; cf. I Cor. 10:13)

#### Consider This Week in East Tennessee

- How many lies, fornications, adulteries, thefts, assaults, intoxications, insults, disrespectful actions, shady business deals, cases of the strong exploiting the weak, broken promises, unkind thoughts etc. have happened this past week?
- Do you lock your doors?
- Do you trust all the people you pay for services?
- Does God's will rule over most people?

As in the Paul's time, we live in a world in rebellion against God (cf. Rom. 1:18-32). Secularization, materialism, relativism, pride, hatefulness, and a host of other ills offer convincing testimony that Satan rules in most hearts. Let us therefore be vigilant and militant, wary of the devices of the Devil, yet pressing for victory in the name of Jesus (Rom. 8:31-39).

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