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Romans 11:33

# INCREASING IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

Ashland Church of Christ 2008



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## Satan — Know Your Enemy

### Know Your Enemy

Text: 1Peter 5:6-11

**Key Text:** 1Peter 5:8, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

Introduction:

- 1) 1Peter: We can overcome our trials:
  - A) With the help of our elders (1-4).
  - B) By humbling ourselves (5-7).
  - C) By standing against Satan (8-9).
  - D) By becoming perfect (10).
  - E) By the power of God (11).
  - F) Closing remarks to the book are found in 12-14.
- 2) In the midst of overcoming our trials, we find the source of our trials (8).

#### I. Be sober.

- A. Awake and aware.
- B. 1Thessalonians 5:6.
- C. Older men (Titus 2:2) and younger men (Titus 2:6).
- D. Don't be foolish:
  1. Know how the devil is going to operate (1John 2:16).
  2. Know your own weaknesses.

**3. Be aware.**

E. This and the next phrase are encouraging the same thing.

**II. Be vigilant (aware).**

A. Matthew 26:38, 40, and 41.

B. Matthew 25:13.

C. The idea here is to watch for him:

1. Satan is cunning and crafty (Genesis 3:1).
2. He is going to try to sneak up on us.
3. Thus, we need to watch for him.

D. We watch for him by humbling ourselves before God (verse 6).

E. We watch for him by being 'steadfast in the faith' (verse 9).

**III. The Devil.**

A. He is an adversary, he is adverse.

B. He is a lion:

1. Some lions sleep up to 23 hours a day.
2. Yet when they are looking for food, they find a target and go after it.
3. They may spend a day preying and seeking.

C. The Devil will spend the time to find your weak spot.

D. Thus, we must know him and we must know our own weaknesses.

E. 'Devour' – gulp down or swallow, make to become totally entangled in sin.

**Conclusion:**

- 1) The devil works hard at what he does. He works hard to prevent you and me from going to Heaven.
- 2) We must be aware of his existence, his tactics, and his aims if we are going to avoid his evil lures.