

## Know Your Enemy Study Questions

Satan is the evil one, the devil. The Scriptures use many names for him including, “the prince of peace,” god of this world,” “deceiver,” “liar,” and “tempter.” From the Biblical descriptions we learn that he is the adversary of God, of Jesus Christ, and all Christians, as well as mankind in general. Satan is the leader of the kingdom of evil.

The Bible teaches that he is a danger to us, because he still works to tempt Christians. It warns us about him, but also teaches how we are to stand against him so that he will flee from us. The Good News is that believers in Jesus Christ are assured of victory over Satan whose attacks come in the spiritual realm.

Historically, Satan is a fallen angel but the scriptures do not give us much more information than that. Two verses that reveal his evil beginnings are Luke 10:18, ‘And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.” And Revelation 12:9 “And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world--he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.” At some point in time, before man, Satan was evicted from heaven with the angels who stood with him and they have been “going to and fro on the earth, and walking up and down on it" (Job 1:7) ever since.

Ask God to teach you what His Word says about this adversary and how you can be protected from his attacks.

1. A. Describe a decision you made that, as a Christian, required you to wonder if you were being led by God or by Satan.

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B. What finally helped you make the decision?

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2. James 1:13 says, “Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.”

A . According to this verse, what does God tempt us to do? \_\_\_\_\_

B. What are your biggest temptations in this world?

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3. 1 Corinthians 10:13 “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.” Record what you learn about God and temptation from this verse.

A. God:

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B. Temptation

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4. Read 1 John 3:4 – 10.

A. What does John say about people who abide in Christ?

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B. According to 1 John 3:8, who is the person who continues to sin serving?

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C. Why does verse 8 say that the Son of God appeared?

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D. Why won't the person who is born of God (born again) continue in sin (verse 9)?

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E. How do we know if a person is not a child of God according to verse 10?

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5. Read Job 1:6-12.

A. Where had Satan been before he appeared with the angels before God?

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B. What does God suggest in verse 8?

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C. How does Satan explain why Job fears God?

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D. What limits did God put on Satan in verse 12?

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6. 1 John 2:16, “For all that is in the world--the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions--is not from the Father but is from the world.”

James 4:1-2 “What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask.”

According to these two verses what, or who, besides Satan, leads us into sin?

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7. How is Satan described in Genesis 3:1? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Eve wanted to eat of the fruit that God had told her she could not have. What have you been tempted to do because you could not have it? (a house you could not afford, a married man, money, someone else’s wealth or goods, even their garden, the perfect marriage, the perfect child, etc.).

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9. What name does Revelation 12:10 give to Satan? \_\_\_\_\_

10. How would you explain the difference between the conviction of sin by the Holy Spirit and the accusations of sin from Satan?

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11. A. What sin from your past do you still feel guilty about?

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B. 1 John 1:9 says, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” Is your guilt an accusation from Satan or the conviction of the Holy Spirit?

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C. If we are cleansed of all unrighteousness, should guilt plague our lives?

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12. A. In Genesis 3:13 what does Eve say that Satan did to her?

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B. Can you identify some popular beliefs in American culture that are most likely deceptions from Satan or his demons?

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13. A. Read 1 Peter 5:8. What does this verse say about Satan?

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B. What do you think Satan devours?

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14. Look up the following verses and record what you learn about the devil.

A. 1 Samuel 16:14

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B. Matthew 12:24

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C. John 8:44

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D. John 12:31

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E. 2 Corinthians 11:14

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F. 2 Corinthians 12:7

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G. Ephesians 2:2

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H. Ephesians 6:12

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I. 1 Peter 5:8

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15. Speaking to Christians, 1 John 4:4b says “He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” What does this teach about God and Satan?

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16. Read Matthew 4:1-11. Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. Satan presents three temptations to which Jesus responded with the same three words.

A. What are the words he said?

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B. What was He referring to?

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C. According to John 5:19, who does Jesus take His instructions from?

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17. A. What must a Christian do to have the Word of God available to counter the temptations of the devil?

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B. How and when will you prepare to be ready?

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18. As you consider the temptations of Jesus and the responses He gave from Scripture, have you recognized a time when you might have been tempted by Satan? (such as using manipulative methods of getting something for yourself, looking for fame or money rather than being satisfied with what you have from God, or an ungodly relationship?)

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B. How would you respond differently with the knowledge of scripture you have today?

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19. Read Ephesians 6:10-18 which describes the armor of God.

A. According to verse 11, what is the armor for?

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B. What do verses 12 – 13 teach us about who we are to arm ourselves against?

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C. List the pieces of armor.

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2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

D. In verse 18, what are we instructed to add to the armor? \_\_\_\_\_

