

# *Satan-Conqueror!*

## **Hebrews 2:14-15**

East Berlin Community Church

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### Introduction

- Our on-going terrorist threats against the United States and our way of life.
- Terrorists seek to...
  - Kill as many civilians as they can.
  - Instill fear within us that paralyzes and brings us into bondage
- **As believers, we are in battle with a spiritual “terrorist”, Satan himself. At one time, we were part of his kingdom.**
  - Ephesians 2:1-2-- *“And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience.”*
- **But Jesus came! He took on flesh so that He could be...**
  - **The Captain of our Salvation.**
    - Hebrews 2:10-- *“For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”*
  - **Our Sanctifier to make us holy!**
    - Hebrews 2:11-13-- *“ For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying: “I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.” And again: “I will put My trust in Him.” And again: “Here am I and the children whom God has given Me.”*

### *Satan-Conqueror!*

- Hebrews 2:14-15-- *“Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”*

### **A. Jesus Christ Came to “Destroy” Satan!**

1. **Jesus Christ, in His incarnation, “shared in the same”, that is, He shared our humanity.**
2. **He shared our humanity so that He could “destroy” Satan.**
  - a. “Destroyed” does not mean “to kill” or to “cause one to go out of existence”
  - b. Satan continues to be alive and well on planet earth.
  - c. But his future doom is sealed when Jesus returns to establish His kingdom here on earth.
    - Revelation 20:2-3-- *“He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.”*
    - Revelation 20:9-- *“fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.”*

- Revelation 20:10-- *"The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever."*

d. The word "destroy" means to "render ineffective the power or force of something."

## B. Satan holds the "power of death" over us!

### 1. Ways in which Satan holds the power of death over us?

#### a. He does not have absolute power to take human life without God's consent.

- 1) God puts a "hedge of protection" around His children, shielding them from Satan's plans.
  - Job 2:4-6-- *"Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!.... Behold, he is in your hand, but spare his life."*
- 2) As a means of severe discipline, God allows Satan to take human life.
  - 1 Corinthians 5:4-5-- *"In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus."*

#### b. Satan's main power is through the THREAT of death!

- 1) Satan is partially responsible for the existence of death.
  - Genesis 2:16-17-- *"Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."*
  - Romans 5:12-- *"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned."*
- 2) Satan, as the "accuser of the brethren" reminds God of the penalty for our sins
- 3) **Jesus Christ, through his death, neutralizes Satan and takes away one of his main weapons, the threat of death.**
  - Colossians 2:13-15-- *"And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it."*
  - a) Jesus Christ died for the "handwriting of requirements that was against us."
  - b) Jesus Christ has disarmed the spiritual powers and authorities. The threat of losing our eternal salvation has been rendered powerless. The threat of spiritual death is gone!
    - Romans 8:31-34-- *"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us."*
  - c) By His resurrection, Jesus Christ finished conquering death once and for all!
    - 1 Corinthians 15:54-57-- *"when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

c. **Satan also uses the FEAR of death to paralyze us and keep us in bondage.**

1) **The fear of the final judgment.**

- Hebrews 9:27-- *"it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment."*
- Romans 8:1a-- *"There is therefore, now, no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus."*

2) **The fear of dying itself**

a) **Common Fears connected with dying**

- (1) Loss of mastery or control.
- (2) Incompleteness or failure. Leaving "loose ends"
- (3) Fear of separation from our loved ones
- (4) The fear of the unknown
- (5) Fear connected with the means of death

b) **How Jesus Christ frees us from these fears associated with death!**

(1) **Loss of mastery or control.** Our lives are already under the lordship of Jesus Christ!

(2) **Incompleteness or failure.** We have the hope of our eternal future.

(a) The work that Jesus gave us to do will be finished when we die.

- 2 Timothy 4:6-7-- *"For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."*

(b) God can use others to finish what we've started,

(3) **The fear of separation from loved ones?** Just the opposite. We will be reunited with our loved ones who have died in Christ. We will be with the Lord! No more separation in heaven!

(4) **Fear of the Unknown?** Jesus Christ has gone before us to prepare a place for us! We have been given a glimpse of heaven in God's Word. By His resurrection, Jesus Christ has come back to life to tell us what it is like on the other side!

(5) **Fear of the means of dying!** God who determines the day of our death also determines the means by which we will die. And He will give us the grace needed at the moment of death and will walk with us through the valley of the shadow of death. Physical death is described as "falling asleep", a peaceful departure as we are "absent from the body, present with our Lord." Nothing can ever separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord!

- Romans 8:37-39-- *"more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*