

E2E- Part 105a

Ezekiel

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1. Because we have never known life without sin, our world has a hard time comprehending how far we are from God. Satan is real and is directly opposed to God.
2. The statement that 48% of Americans reject the existence of Satan can be explained by the fact that they have been without Biblical teachings, and their convictions are shaped by a lifetime of exposure to poor information.
3. In the book of Ezekiel, God exposes Satan as the real enemy and that there is a bigger plan to come.
4. Ezekiel finds himself as one of the captives in Babylon and God assigns him the task of delivering hard truth to his people.
5. Ezekiel is gripped by the power of the Holy Spirit, and in turn, he records exactly what God says.
6. Throughout history, there has been a common thread in past generations that recognized we are in a real battle against Satan. We see this in examples like Churchill, authors of hymns, Martin Luther, the early church fathers, and the apostles.
7. In Matthew 16, Jesus states that Hell contrasts with the building of the church.
8. God reveals through Ezekiel how Lucifer, meaning “Shining One,” fell and how his name change to Satan signifies “the one who opposes.”
9. Never underestimate the strength or resolve of the enemy, but remember that Jesus is greater!
10. A believer understands that, in order to be rescued, we had to be in a state of despair. This is what differentiates believers from non-believers. Those who believe grasp how distant we were from God and how much we needed Jesus to save us.

GREEK & HEBREW WORDS

Antidikos (an-tid'-ee-kos); an opponent (in a lawsuit); specially, Satan (as the arch-enemy): – adversary

Kosmokrator, (kos-mok-rat'-ore); Grk; a *world-ruler*, an epithet of Satan:-

<https://winstonchurchill.org/resources/speeches/1941-1945-war-leader/the-atlantic-charter-audio/>

QUOTES

“Through this apprehension, he became a vehicle for divine revelation and was able to produce flawless Scripture.” **Dr. Arnold Fructenbaum, 2024**

“We sang indeed... and I felt that this was no vain presumption, but that we had the right to feel that we are serving a cause for the sake of which a trumpet has sounded from on high. When I looked upon that densely packed congregation of fighting men of the same language, of the same faith, of the same fundamental laws, of the same ideals ... -it swept across me that here was the only hope, but also the sure hope, of saving the world from measureless degradation.”

Winston Churchill, 1941

TODAY'S WORSHIP

This is Amazing Grace
Thank You Jesus
Revelation Song
One Thing Remains

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Mark mentions that 48% of Americans reject Satan as a real being, while 86% of American Christians believe he is real. Why do you think there's such a significant gap? What has shaped your own understanding of Satan's reality in the past and today?

How important do you think it is for Christians to accept the reality of evil supernatural beings as we seek to live out our lives as followers of Jesus faithfully? How did you come to that conclusion?

Ephesians 6:12 says our struggle is "not against flesh and blood." How does this truth change the way we can view conflicts with other people? Share examples of when remembering this helped you respond differently.

First John 4:4 promises that "greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world." How does or could this truth give you confidence in living out your faith more boldly and intentionally?

Ephesians 6:10-20 includes the instruction for us to "take up the full armor of God." Take a moment to read the passage together. What does it look like practically to be equipped with the different items Paul lists?

What specific steps can you take this week to be more aware of, better equipped for, or intentionally engaged in the spiritual battle raging all around us?