

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

What is the Devil Like?

by John West

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." (1 Pet. 5:8) While trying to rock my son to sleep late one night, I watched an episode of Animal Planet about lions and how they hunt prey. What I learned made the above Bible verse come alive in a most vivid way.

Satan waits, lurks, and prowls around us. Lions are a most interesting and curious animal. I learned that over 80% of the time, lions sleep lazily in the sunshine – looking totally disinterested. But that is precisely how they lure in their next unsuspecting meal until it is too close to get away. Similarly, Peter warns us to be aware of our enemy, the devil. One of his greatest schemes is to do his work covertly and behind the scenes. Like the lion, he doesn't attack recklessly – that would be too obvious. Nor does he reveal himself openly – but he lurks, waiting for the appropriate time.

Satan attacks at our weakest point. Lions don't go after a whole herd. Rather, they watch for the one who wanders off alone. Absent of others influence and help, they are easy to take down. No wonder the Lord commanded Christians to stick together. (Heb. 3:13; 10:24-25)

Satan is persistent. Like a lion, Satan will not stop until you are dead! Lions have been known to wait for hours after a first blow draws blood. As the victim grows weaker and weaker, they prowl and follow behind – waiting for the right moment to finish the kill. And so is the devil. We observe that after trying to tempt Jesus, the devil went away, but only for a short while, "...waiting for an opportune time." (Luke 4:13)

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The Encouragement Group meets on Thursday's at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come serve with us as we reach into our community!

**Sunday Classes 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:10 a.m.
Wed. Services 6:00 p.m.**



**Melbourne Church of Christ
A Place to Belong**

Elders

Danny Brightwell Alan Love
291-3439 243-4608

Shelby Qualls David Brightwell
291-7424 307-5714

Deacons

Joe Cooper 291-4653

Dalton Grigg 421-6240

Rusty Treat 373-1884

Minister

Ryan Lloyd
217-1109
Melbourne CoC
Box 267
Melbourne, AR

Family News

- The sign-up sheet for food for Ladies Day is on the table in the foyer. Salads and desserts are needed.
- Fellowship hall cleanup for Ladies Day is on May 30th at 9 a.m.
- Ladies Day is on June 1st. The theme this year is: Stress & Anxiety and Joy in the Lord. Registration is from 9-9:30 a.m. Sandra Taylor and Betty Brightwell are the speakers.
- Dana McDaniel, Bob & Gleneta Martin's daughter, had spinal cord surgery on Friday. Please keep her in your prayers as she recovers.
- Marvin Hoskinds needs a kidney transplant and is on a waiting list. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Eric Bray is on Hospice. Please keep Eric and his family in your prayers.
- Memorial contribution for Ronnie Adkisson: Bill & Carolyn Younger
- Sermons and bulletins available at Melbournechurchofchrist.com

OPENING PRAYER Brent Qualls
CLOSING PRAYER Sanders Lee Wyatt



MAY

RUSTY TREAT
ALAN LOVE

BRITAN TREAT
DAVIS LOVE

JUNE

CHIP MASTER
ALAN LOVE

ROBERT LANGSTON
DAVIS LOVE

Continued...

Satan's favorite method: Death by choking! Something I was surprised to learn is that lions kill by asphyxiation. I had thought that lions rip and tear into the vital organs of their prey with gashing blows.

Actually, they go for the neck and clamp down hard, throwing the struggling victim to the ground. Then they wait while their prey grasps for life-giving air. By this point the end is inevitable and the lion has won.

In that is a warning for us. We are repeatedly admonished against letting the cares and concerns of our physical lives distract us from our duty to God. (Mark 4:19; 1 John 2:15) Satan wants to "choke" the word from our heart causing us to fall away. (Luke 8:14)

Let us all be on the lookout for the lion who constantly seeks the opportunity to destroy us, "lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices" (2 Cor. 2:11).

Prayer List

Military: Derek Love **Officers:** Steve & Sherry Davidson, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

Nursing Home: Al Gillihan, Debbie Hoskinds, Imodean Webb, Troy Gaston, Sue Campbell, Barbara Watson, Bill Wiseman

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|------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| Ted Kidd | Wilma Cooper | Peggy Hall | Dorothy Teague |
| Bill Roland | Joe Guiltner | Debbie Crow | Cornelia Summers |
| Christie Haney | Joanna Smith | Wayne Crosby | Brooke Partin |
| Gary Brown | Sanyia Austin | Charlotte Cooper | John Young |
| Regenia Gillihan | Regina Master | Shawna Teegarden | John Ward |
| Boyde Martin | Gage Barns | Toby Weatherford | Ruby Patillo |

May Birthdays

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|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Carolyn Younger 3 rd | Peyton Love 5 th | Lydia Sipe 10 th |
| Levi Taylor 12 th | Kollin Hoskinds 12 th | Tristan Elms 15 th |
| Whitney Morehead 19 th | Doyle Wyatt 22 nd | Marty Webb 28 th |
| Linda Taylor 31 st | | |

May Anniversaries

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| David & Tamra Brightwell 10 th | Joe & Holly Cooper 17 th |
| Shelby & Ramona Qualls 25 th | Charles & Jeanette Everette 27 th |
| Billy & Peggy Beebe 30 th | |

Dates to Remember

Ladies Night Out 4th Monday of every month @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food.
 Ladies Bible Study 1st, 2nd, 3rd Monday @ 6 p.m.
 Men meet 3rd Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.
 Family game night every 4th Sunday from 5-7 p.m. bring a finger food.
 Potluck every 5th Sunday after services, please bring a dish.

James 4:7-10, "Humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor."