

It is significant that in today's Scripture verse it says that Satan has to seek out those whom he *may* devour. This means that he cannot devour everyone, so as a believer never surrender your authority to him and be found among those whom he can devour! Also, did you notice that he roams about *like* "a roaring lion"? Why does he go about as a roaring lion and not some other creature? The answer is in Proverbs 19:12, which says: "The King's wrath is like the roaring of a lion." Satan is an imposter who goes about as a roaring lion because he is imitating the King of kings, our Lord Jesus, the real Lion Of Judah. He wants people to think that our King is full of wrath, anger, and rage against us. He therefore comes at us roaring with the voice of condemnation, accusation, and shame. Satan wants you to have the impression that you have failed God, and that He is not only disappointed with you, but is also furious with you. Now, if you believe that about God, would you be taking refuge under the shelter of His wings? Would you be taking your rightful place of authority, power, and strength? Of course not. In fact, you would flee from God!

Believers who are under a cloud of condemnation won't pray the prayer of protection. They feel unworthy of God's promises and, in fact, are expecting punishment and judgement from God. That is exactly where Satan wants you to be. When you run away from God, you are running straight into Satan's snare. You abdicate your place of authority when you abdicate your place of intimacy with God. You need to know this: You are loved. God is not angry with you. In Christ, you can have the confident assurance that you are forgiven, loved, and righteous. (Ephesians 1:7, Romans 8:37, 2 Corinthians 5:21) Jesus has taken all your punishment at the Cross so that you can always enjoy His undeserved, unearned, and unmerited favour. God sees you in Christ, who is completely spotless and without blame. Based on our own deeds, none of us qualify for His protection. However, because of what our Lord Jesus has done for us on the Cross, we can all come boldly to His throne of grace. (Hebrews 4:16) Because of what He has done, we qualify to dwell in the secret place with the King of kings, where the false "roaring lion" has no power over us!

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