

# Divided We Fall

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – October 10, 2021

[John 17:1a, 15-23](#)

1 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed...

15 My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. 17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. 20 "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: 23 I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

## 1. OUR ENEMY IS THE DEVIL, NOT ONE ANOTHER

[Ephesians 6:10-12](#)

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

[1 Peter 5:8-9](#)

8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.  
9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith...

[Matthew 13:37-39](#)

37 [Jesus] answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sows them is the devil..."

## 2. THE DEVIL IS A LIAR WHO ONLY WANTS TO SOW CONFUSION, DISCORD, ANGER & HATRED

[Genesis 3:1, 4](#)

1 ... [the serpent] said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman.

[John 8:44](#)

[Jesus said] "44 ... [the devil] was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

[John 10:10](#)

[Jesus said] "10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

## 3. GOD CALLS US TO LOVE (EVEN OUR ENEMIES)

[John 13:34-35](#)

[Jesus said] 34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

[Psalms 133:1, 3](#)

1 How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! 3... For there the Lord commands his blessing...

[Matthew 5:44](#)

[Jesus said] "44 But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

[Matthew 22:37-39](#) (Great Commandment)

37 Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"