

**ALLIGATOR ETIQUETTE**

1 Peter 5:8

## INTRODUCTION

- A. EP 6:11, 16
- B. Alligator Etiquette.
  - 1. How to behave around alligators.
  - 2. Plain, Simple, Straight-forward Rules.
- C. Different reactions to the rules.
  - 1. Shun all advice – throw rules in the trash.
  - 2. Put rules on dashboard – will read later.
  - 3. Read, follow rules and enjoy visit to the park
- D. REMEMBER: When in the Park, you are in the Alligator's World!
- E. REMEMBER: When in the World, you are in Satan's World! 2 CO 4:4.
- F. GOD HAS GIVEN US RULES TO LIVE BY IN SATAN'S WORLD!
  - 1. PS 119:105.
  - 2. JN 6:63.
  - 3. Beware. 2 CO 11:3. CO 2:4.
- G. God's Commandments Are Good. DT 6:24; CO 3:25; GA 6:7-8.

## DISCUSSION

- I. ALLIGATOR ETIQUETTE – RULE #1.
  - A. Absolutely do not feed or annoy the alligators!
    - 1. Satan Etiquette.
    - 2. RO 12:9; 1 TH 5:22.
  - B. Often we are not as strong as we think we are! 1 CO 10:12.
    - 1. I can handle a little alcohol. PR 20:1; 23:31-32.
    - 2. That movie won't affect me. PR 4:23
    - 3. I'm just going to do it this once. RO 6:16; LK 12:15.
    - 4. My old friends won't cause me to sin. 1 CO 15:33.
    - 5. Missing just one service won't hurt me. HE 10:25.
- II. ALLIGATOR ETIQUETTE – RULE #2
  - A. Speak to those violating the rules or contact a ranger immediately.
    - 1. Satan Etiquette.
    - 2. EK 3:17; GA 6:1.
  - B. How would we react if we saw others playing in a nest of baby gators?
    - 1. Am I my brother's keeper?
    - 2. Let's not rush into anything.
    - 3. A few little bites won't hurt them.
    - 4. Most people don't get hurt by a gator.
    - 5. I don't want to offend them.
  - C. Why do we react to physical danger so differently than to spiritual danger?
- III. ALLIGATOR ETIQUETTE – RULE 3.
  - A. If you love your pet keep it on a leash.
    - 1. Satan Etiquette.
    - 2. EP 6:4; PR 22:15; 19:18.
  - B. How must do we love our children?
- IV. ALLIGATOR ETIQUETTE – RULE 4.
  - A. Do not assume alligators are slow-moving or sluggish!
    - 1. Satan Etiquette.

2. Do not be deceived – Satan is the master of deception. JN 8:44
3. RE 12:9
- B. Too many view Satan as harmless or non-existent.
  1. Just a tool God uses to get us to comply with His Will.
  2. Deceived Eve – GE 3:4-6.
  3. Deceived the prophet of God – 1 KI 13.
  4. Tried to deceive Christ – MT 4.
  5. He will use:
    - a. Spouse and children – MT 10:34-36.
    - b. Wicked women – PR 7:6-21.
    - c. False Teachers – MT 7:16-20.
    - d. Friends – 1 CO 15:33.
    - e. Riches – MT 13:32.
    - f. Philosophy – CO 2:8.
    - g. Wine – PR 23:21-22.
    - h. Self – 1 CO 3:18.
    - i. Pride – Obadiah 3.
- C. How do we avoid being deceived? Do not be deceived by the appearance of sin!
  1. Discern between good and evil. HE 6:12-14.
  2. Hide God's Word in your heart. PS 118:11.
  3. Approve things that are excellent. PH 1:8-10.
  4. Realize possibility of falling. 1 CO 10:12.
  5. Run from sin. 1 CO 6:18.
  6. Obey elders. HE 13:17.
  7. Obey parents. EP 6:1.
  8. Do right. 1 JN 3:7.
  9. Sow to the spirit. GA 6:7-8.
- V. ALLIGATOR ETIQUETTE – RULE #5.
  - A. If you hook a fish, an alligator may go after your catch!
    1. Satan Etiquette.
    2. New converts will be attacked by Satan!
  - B. 1 PE 2:2; Acts 2:42.
- VI. ALLIGATOR ETIQUETTE – RULE #6.
  - A. Recognize likely spots for gators and avoid!
    1. Satan Etiquette.
    2. Recognize likely spots for Satan and avoid.
  - B. MT 6:13; PS 119:101.

CONCLUSION