

KNOWING OUR ENEMY

Understanding His Strategies – Resisting His Attacks

Part 2: Recognizing the Devil's Strategies



2/13/2022 PM

Introduction:

“we are not ignorant of his schemes” (II Corinthians 2:11)

KNOWING OUR ENEMY

Part 1: Understanding the Devil's History (2/13 AM)
Part 2: Recognizing the Devil's Strategies (2/13 PM)
Part 3: Dealing with the Devil (2/20 AM)
Part 4: Fighting the Devil (2/20 PM)

I. HE WANTS TO DESTROY THE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD (Genesis 3:1-7)

Exposition:

- Satan always attempts to put God's Word in a negative light. (vs. 1-3)
- Satan categorically contradicts God's Word. (vs. 4)
- Satan impugns God's motive and character. (vs. 5)
- Satan seeks to control our thinking and then uses us to pull others down. (vs. 6)

Observations:

- through sensualism
- through reationalism
- through existentialism

II. HE WANTS TO DISCREDIT THE TESTIMONY OF GOD'S PEOPLE (II Corinthians 11:1-5, 14-15)

Exposition:

- he is the master deceiver and imitator (“disguises himself as an angel of light”)
- in the church, he does this through false teachers (“disguised as servants of righteousness”)
- the result is the necessity of evaluating and making judgments resulting in division or discipline
- the absolute standard is the Word of God

Observations:

- through situationalism
- through individualism
- through isolationism

III. HE WANTS TO DESTROY THE BELIEVER'S ENTHUSIASM FOR GOD (I John 2:7-17)

Exposition:

- it's the Evil One (vs. 14) who is the enemy of our souls and works unceasingly destroy us
- he has developed a whole world system ("the things of the world") to use in his attack
- the result is "walking in darkness" (the opposite is "abiding in the Light")
- we are strong against his attacks when "the word of God abides in us" (vs. 14)

Observations:

- through pessimism
- through defeatism
- through negativism

IV. HE WANTS TO DILUTE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE LOCAL CHURCH (II Thessalonians 2:1-12)

Exposition:

- Satan is defined by lawlessness (vs. 7)
- his activity is characterized by "signs and false wonders" (vs. 9)
- those who do not "receive the love of the truth" will be deluded by his influence and end up "believing what is false" (vs. 11)
- this is called "taking pleasure in wickedness" and will end in their judgment (vs. 12)

Observations:

- through cultism
- through egoism
- through antagonism