

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Lesson #3 -Know Your Enemy
Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 5:8-11

Introduction:

1. The first step to solve any problem is to identify it.
2. To be successful at warfare, we must know our enemy
3. Our adversary the devil will attack...

I. THE WORD OF GOD

- A. The teachings of Jesus -Mt 13:18, 19
 1. The devil snatches the word of God from the heart
 2. When people today do not believe they can understand the word, the devil wins
 3. The word can be understood
 - a. One can read and understand -Ep 3:4
 - b. Those of Berea could understand -Ac 17:11
- B. The teachings of Peter -2Pe 3:14-16
 1. Unstable men twist the word to their own destruction
 2. We therefore must give attention to reading to gain the proper understanding of the word -2Ti 2:15

II. THE SOUL WITH TEMPTATION

- A. Lust of the flesh
 1. Jesus warns against the folly of looking -Mt 5:27, 28
 2. Solomon also wrote about the peril of adultery -Pr 6:25-29
 3. E.g. -David's sin with Bathsheba began with a look -2Sa 11:2
- B. Lust of the eye
 1. The eye is never satisfied -Pr 27:20; 30:15, 16
 2. King Solomon tried to find satisfaction -Ec 2:1-11
- C. Pride of life
 1. Eve was tempted with the desire to be wise like God
 2. We too can be tempted with the pride of knowledge -1Co 8:1-ff
 - a. Paul states that there is no wrong in eating meat offered to idols.
 - b. The sin comes in when our freedom causes our brother to stumble

III. THE SOUL WITH TRIBULATION

- A. He attacked Job
 1. Job lost his possessions, his children, and his health.
 2. He was tormented by his wife, "Curse God and die!" -Job 2:9
 3. He was tormented by his friends who tried to convict him of sin.
- B. Tribulation is not always from sin
 1. The suffering of Paul -2Co 11:22-33
 2. The man blind from birth -Jn 9:1-5

Conclusion:

1. Remember that the devil is limited -1Co 10:13, Ja 4:7
2. We overcome him through Jesus -1Jn 4:4; Ro 8:37