

5th of November 2017

The actions of a believer (Pt.4) Live in the knowledge of Satan's devices and God's protection.

This is our fourth study on this topic. We previously established that believers live in the flesh whilst they war in a spiritual battle, where the enemy is unseen and seeks to destroy them. In this study we establish that believers should live in the knowledge of Satan's devices, and put on the armour, and use the weapons that God provides for the battle.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. Live in the knowledge of Satan's devices.

"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices" (2Cor.2: 11).

In a physical battle your enemy is seen in his planes, or ships, or ground manoeuvres, and so the skilled soldier can work out his enemies devices, equip himself with the appropriate armour and weapons, and then set a strategy to fight in the war so that his enemy does not get an advantage of him. Whereas, in this spiritual battle the enemy is unseen and it is easy to forget the enemy and be ignorant of his devices,

2. Put on the armour God provides believers for the battle.

"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Eph. 6: 11).

Paul says of our enemy – they are principalities, powers, the "rulers of the darkness of this world, spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph.6: 12). The Lord Jesus says that our enemy is evil, but the Lord will not take us out of the world because of the evil, but we are to keep ourselves from the evil (Jn.17: 15). The ONLY way we can be protected from Satan's devices is to put on the spiritual armour that God provides believers. Therefore, "take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day..." (Eph.6: 13).

3. Use the weapons God provides believers for the battle.

"(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)" (2Cor.10: 4).

Additional comments on our three points.

It is important to – not be ignorant of our enemies devices, but let us also consider the need to sit with our God and develop a strategy with Him to "war a good warfare" (1Tim.1: 18), that just as Paul said "I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound" (Phil.4: 12) because he had lived through having nothing and much, let us also "know" our enemy, and so **not** be ignorant of his devices, nor God's armour, nor God's weapons.

Applying the teaching to our life today.

Brethren that come to the street-work and outwardly judge the heathen for their sin, or get into raging arguments week after week often find that some calamity strikes their lives which causes them to gradually stop the work, and so cease warring against the enemy.

Question to think about.

Why?

My answer to our question from the scriptures.

Perhaps the believer has gone out into the battle-field and forgotten, or been ignorant of the enemies devices, God's armour, and the Lord's weapons, and so has had zeal, but without knowledge. To ensure that none of us are ignorant of our enemies devices, nor God's armour, nor His weapons. we will, over the coming weeks go through each of the enemies devices, the armour that protects us, and the weapons God gives us to attack when our adversary uses each device, that we will all live in the knowledge of Satan's devices, and use God's protection in the battle.