

Sunday Evening Lesson for January 7, 2018

Satan and his methods

- I. What we can learn from war
 - A. Wisdom from long ago: “If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle.”
 - B. Application
 - a. Our enemy is Satan and his associates. We must know him.
 - b. We must know ourselves. Our weaknesses, our strengths, our mission, our commander and the warfare we wage.
- II. Wisdom from Paul to the Ephesians 6:12 “For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.
- III. A look at Satan and his methods
 - A. His direct approach: See Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13 notice v. 13 “When the devil had

finished every temptation he left Him until an opportune time.”

- B. His indirect approach: See Matthew 13:39
...and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. V. 41 The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, v. 42 and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- C. Sometimes through a friend: Matthew 16: 21-23 Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him saying, “God forbid it Lord! This shall never happen to You.” But He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God’s interests but man’s.”
- D. Sometimes through others: 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

Therefore, it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.

E. John says in 1 John 4:1-3 do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits

IV. How may we know ourselves?

A. Use the Bible as your resource.

a. Study the men, women, boys and girls in the Old and New Testaments. Both good and bad and ask yourself who am I most like?

b. When you have your answer, know that Jesus can use you in His service.

c.