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THE ARMOR OF GOD

Lesson 1— Know your enemy

Introduction: There is a battle between good and evil, and YOU are the prize

Question: When we talk about Satan, what comes to your mind?

I Peter 5:8 ~ Be sober, be vigilant because the devil is roaring like a lion seeking to devour

I. The Devil's Goals

A. Ultimate goal is for people to never accept CHRIST for SALVATION

1. For the lost person, it is obvious...not to receive Christ
2. For the saved person, he seeks to keep us from being an EFFECTIVE witness

B. Second goal is to keep Christ from being glorified

1. mainly this is keeping Christians from having a FRUITFUL life that God can bless and that God gets glory for
2. this includes stealing your JOY (giving no one glory) or making you PRIDEFUL (giving yourself glory)

II. The Devil's Strategy

A. First, what can Satan do to the non-Christian & Christian

1. Non-Christian: overtake EVERY part of you from the inside out
2. Christian: attack you from the OUTSIDE, up to what God allows
-circumstances, bad influences, temptations, illness, etc.

Question: Why would God allow any attacks at all?

*Discuss life of Job

B. The Devil's plan is to deceive with things that look good

1. he tempts us to outright sin, but usually it is a gradual process (see #2)
2. seemingly GOOD things that DISTRACT us
-kids on Willy Wonka following their desires...led to destruction

WARNING SIGNS!

- a. "It's not that big of a deal"
- b. "I deserve this"
- c. "No one will know"
- d. "I can't do it" [after God showing that you need to do something]



-How foolish for a soldier to see that because he dodged 1 arrow that he can stand & not worry about another one coming. He also needs to recognize that he is also fighting against the fire that is consuming him from behind from the fiery arrows.

VERSE FOR THE WEEK

A silver sword with a black hilt, positioned vertically between the words "FOR" and "THE" in the title "VERSE FOR THE WEEK".

Psalm 119:9-11- How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping Your word. I have sought You with all my heart; don't let me wander from Your commands. I have treasured Your word in my heart so that I may not sin against You.