

What the Adversary Knows

Matthew 4:1-11

Conclusion

Previously

- Knows that God is and that Jesus Christ is His Son
- Knows that religion is not enough
- Knows the power of the Gospel

Tonight

- Knows the danger of false doctrine
- Knows what a little sin can do
- Knows the danger of evil associations
- Knows what missing services will do

Knows The Danger Of False Doctrine

- Has taught some a few trendy catch phrases:
 - "Tread lightly."
 - "Don't say things that will upset folks."
 - "Stop stirring up trouble."
 - "Just let things be."
 - "Watch what you say, or they won't come back."

Knows The Danger Of False Doctrine

- Gal. 1:10 - “For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.”
- 1Tim. 4:1-2 - “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron.”

Knows The Danger Of False Doctrine

- Jesus despises false teaching.
 - Pergamos and the Baalamites and Nicolaitans - Rev. 2:12-17
 - The doctrines of the Pharisees and Sadducees - Matt. 16:6-12

Knows The Danger Of False Doctrine

- The religious compromises of the scribes and Pharisees.
 - Matt. 15:8-9, 13-14 - “These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. 9 And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men... Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. 14 Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.”
- Satan knows what a little false teaching can do to a Church; if uncertain sounds continue, he wins.

Knows What A Little Sin Can Do

- Satan tempted Adam and Eve into committing one sin.
 - Gen. 3:1-6, 2:17
- He knew if they committed one sin, they would commit more.
 - John 8:44 - “You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”

Knows What A Little Sin Can Do

- Satan trained people to lie, the easiest sin to commit.
 - Acts 5:1-11
- Sins of weakness will cause one to be lost.
 - Gal. 2:11-13 - “Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.”

Knows What A Little Sin Can Do

- 1Cor. 10:13 applies to the young, old, sick, and burdened.
 - “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”

Knows What A Little Sin Can Do

- Sins of ignorance will cause one to be lost.
 - Simon the Sorcerer wanting to buy the power of the Holy Spirit - Acts 8:18-24
- Not only will a little sin defile the man, but it can corrupt the Church.
 - 1Cor. 5:6 - “Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?”

Knows The Danger Of Evil Associations

- Satan wants us to view worldliness as pleasure, rather than destruction.
 - Heb. 11:25 - “Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.”

Knows The Danger Of Evil Associations

- Progression into sin is gradual.
 - Psalm 1:1 - “Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful.”
 - Start by observing it -- initiates tolerance.
 - Move to proximity -- breaks down resistance.
 - Progress to participation -- sinning.

Knows The Danger Of Evil Associations

- The first step on road to hell isn't necessarily a sin; it is bad judgment.
 - 1Cor. 15:33 - "Do not be deceived: Evil company corrupts good habits."
 - Eph. 5:11 - "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them."

Knows What Missing Services Will Do

- Heb. 10:23-26 - “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. 26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins”
- Rom. 10:17 - “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

Do We Know As Much As The Adversary?

- He knows there is a heaven and hell.
- He knows there is a Judgment Day.

2Peter 3:3-11 - "Knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, 4 and saying, 'Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.' 5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. 7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness."

Do We Know As Much As The Adversary?

- 1Peter 5:8 - “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”