

The Secret Weapon Against Satan

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I. Introduction.

- A. What Christ has to say is as powerful as any atomic energy that can be released.
- B. What Christ would tell us today likely is what he said once already. (Luke 14:25-35)

II. What Christ would tell us today.

- A. The message would have only been over two hundred words and would only be a few minutes long.
- B. Many questions would be left over.
 - 1. What is the difference between the two kings? One king is Satan (I Peter 5:8) with numerically superior forces. The other with the numerically inferior forces is Jesus.
 - 2. The king with the numerically inferior forces has four options: retreat, surrender, requesting peace terms (this would be unfavorable), or he could unveil a secret weapon ensuring victory for every generation and every confrontation. The last would be his preference.
 - 3. The secret would be a follower of a very special caliber. This person is characterized by the good salt. Jesus wants the kind of a follower who makes him look good and victorious.
 - 4. The kind of follower that Jesus is looking for is the kind that will make Him look as He really is and be victorious.

III. The secret weapon.

A. But the point is this:

- 1. The follower must love Jesus more than family (and the Bible does not deal lightly with family responsibility - Exodus 20:12; I Timothy 5:8) - only God has the right to ask for this kind of commitment.
- 2. The follower must love Jesus more than career.
- 3. The follower must love Jesus more than things. God gives (Nehemiah). He will be given things (Matthew 6:33; I Timothy 6:17), but he must love Him more than things.

B. The example of a young man who loved Christ more than family, career, and things.

C. The example of the speaker who is leaving family, career, and things in order to partake in a new mission.

IV. Society has found a hero in Jesus Christ.

A. All of today's heroes are myths.

B. There is an exception: We have a hero today without imperfections - Jesus Christ. (Revelation 4:11)

1. Great men worshipped and followed Jesus: Napoleon, Woodrow Wilson.

2. David is depicted in art more than anyone, but he was not a hero. David's hero was Jesus. (Acts 2:25)

3. The subject of Jesus Christ is simply inexhaustible.

4. Paul was related to Jesus as a bond-slave who when he came up for freedom chose voluntarily never to be free because of his love for his master. We are invited to make the same commitment to Christ. (Philippians 1:1; Exodus 21)

C. As he said to Paul, Christ says to the lost, "It is kind of tough kicking against 'the pricks,' isn't it?"

V. Conclusion.

A. Christ would conclude by asking about you.

B. Do you feel a response in your heart that you've never felt before?

Application questions.

1. What is the secret weapon? What characterizes this weapon? What is its purpose?

2. What is your reaction to the idea that you are part of Christ's plan to glorify Himself? How might that look in your own circumstances?

3. What might characterize your present relationship with Jesus Christ? Is it hot or cold? What place does He take in relation to family, career and things? What is something you can do today to demonstrate a new found or revitalized commitment to Christ over everything else?
