

# **Six Twin Struggles of Life**

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## I. Introduction.

A. Introduction to the speaker.

B. The Navigators have the privilege of publishing the Word whether on the mission field or at home. (Psalm 68:11)

C. Look ahead with the hope that God would be able to use you in the intervening years.

D. The state of the world.

1. 1000 Buddhist groups without witness.

2. 2000 Chinese Huns.

3. 3000 Hindus.

4. 4000 Muslims.

5. 5000 tribal peoples.

6. 2000 other groups.

7. The harvest has past and these have not been reached.

E. Whether home or abroad there are many tensions in spiritual warfare. (Ephesians 6:11-12)

1. One of the most challenging things we are to do is to keep our hearts. (Proverbs 4:23)

2. There are also the twin struggles of life.

## II. The gospel versus the cleverness of man.

A. There are other gospels surrounding us. (Ephesians 1:6)

1. The gospel that says if you believe you will receive material benefits—the prosperity gospel.

2. An overstress of contextualizing the gospel can be another gospel. (2 Timothy 2:4)

B. We must proclaim the gospel—God will provide through it. (Isaiah 60:22)

1. Prepare your testimony.

2. Carry a gospel of Mark or John with you and use it.

### III. The fool versus the man or woman of understanding.

A. There is a continual struggle between the ways of life of the fool and the one of understanding.

B. “Foolishness” is used ninety-two times, “Wise” or “wisdom” is used a hundred and twenty-one times, “understanding” is used sixty-five times, and “righteousness” eighty-eight times.

C. The fool.

1. The fool is not a buffoon—they are often the successful ones. He is a rebel though before God.

2. There are those that say, “Thy will be done,” and those to whom God says, “Alright, have it your way.” (C.S. Lewis)

D. The four indispensables of life: wisdom, knowledge, discretion, and understanding. (Proverbs 2).

1. Wisdom is the ability to judge soundly between what is true and what is false. (Job 28:28, Psalm 11:10)

2. Understanding is the growing spiritual ability to understand the fear of the Lord, your associates, also the needs of the world, and oneself. (Proverbs 3:13, 4:7)

E. An outline of Proverbs according to “wisdom:” the importance of wisdom (1-7), the origin of wisdom (8), the results of wisdom (9-31). We should sell our souls to mastering wisdom.

### IV. The Word of God versus the traditions of man.

A. The Word is sharper than a two-edged sword. (Hebrews 4:12)

1. The Word must be mastered. The greatest miracle in the world is to change a human heart and the Word can do it. (Jeremiah 23:29, Psalm 119:165)

2. We must let the Word work out in our lives. Make a soil of humble modesty for the Word that roots itself inwardly.

B. Too many have not read the whole Bible through in its entirety.

### V. “Going on” versus “giving up”.

A. We are not to give up but go on. (2 Corinthians 4:9-16)

1. If there is one quality on the mission field that is necessary it is to learn to persevere.

2. Failures are the stepping stones to success. (Proverbs 24:16)

B. Keep praying for loved ones.

C. Perseverance is vital and we get it through tests and the prayer of faith. (James 1:1-13)

VI. My Achilles heel versus God's grace.

A. When our flaw becomes out of control we become double minded. (Hebrews 12:1)

B. There is a sin that would overcome each of us individually. (Mark 7:7-23, Psalm 19:12-13)

C. A man and woman must be on guard to trust God for the right spouse and not veer from that. (2 Timothy 2:1)

VII. Who I seem to be versus who I really am.

A. What a person really is, is mostly under the surface. (Matthew 6)

B. Only when we follow Jesus Christ in obedience can we have victory. (Romans 6:11-13)

Application questions.

1. Which of the twin struggles of life stood out to you personally? Explain.

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2. What is having wisdom and understanding? Why is this important?

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3. What do you think your Achilles heel is? How would you apply the speaker's counsel to address this issue? Be specific.

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