

The Tactics of Terror

Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Ephesians 6:10-13.
- B. We can be no possible help to the problem so long as we remain part of the world's problems.

II. The devil attacks humanity directly and indirectly.

- A. The flesh is the inward desire towards selfishness. This is where the Christian is called to do battle.
- B. The devil can never get the Christian back into the place of unconscious control, but he can demoralize him to make him fruitless.
 - 1. The presence of Christians in this world bothers him greatly because they are a threat to his rule.
 - 2. The devil comes often as an angel of light through the channel of the flesh.

III. The flesh.

- A. It is identified with our body that dies ultimately. (Romans 8)
- B. The flesh will be with us until the resurrection, consequently.
- C. The flesh touches the whole man, so the devil can influence the whole person.
- D. How the devil works.
 - 1. Through our minds, the devil makes his appeal to our reason.
 - 2. Through our bodies, the devil makes appeal to our emotions.
 - 3. God moves to create harmony, where the devil tries to create imbalance between the mind and the emotions.
 - 4. The gospel always makes its appeal to the whole of a person.
 - 5. The devil tries to exalt the reason to steer us from faith.
 - 6. The devil exalts feelings to mislead us from reality.
 - 7. The devil wants us to give way to our fears while Jesus encourages faith.
- E. God makes provision for those who recognize their weaknesses.

Application questions:

1. What is the flesh?

2. How can our awareness of the devil's strategy to demoralize us help us to counter his actions?
How does the believer counter the devil's attacks?

3. Why is it essential for the believer to understand his or her own weakness with regard to the flesh? Explain.
