

the tactics of the enemy

I. **Who** does Satan attack?

- A. The **Church**
- B. The **Family**
- C. The **Nations**

II. **When** does Satan attack?

- A. When we're paying the least amount of **attention**.
- B. When we're starting to experience **spiritual growth**.
- C. When we are beginning to invade **enemy territory**.
- D. When we begin to **expose** the **enemy**.
- E. When we begin to make a break with the **world system**.
- F. When God is about to do **something big** in our lives¹.

III. **How** does Satan attack?

- A. He attacks us by luring us to stew in **unhealthy emotions** - Genesis 4!
 - 1. **Bitterness** - Genesis 4:5-7
 - 2. **Anger** - Ephesians 4:25-27
 - 3. **Excessive guilt** - 2 Corinthians 2:6-11
- B. He attacks us through tempting us to live apart from our **devotion** to **God** - 2 Corinthians 11:3!
 - 1. Satan does a great **imitation** of real spirituality!!
2 Corinthians 11:13-15
 - 2. Satan lures us to the extremes of **license** or **legalism**!!

- C. He attacks us by introducing and cementing **false thoughts** in our minds that act as **strongholds** against the truth!!
2 Corinthians 10:1-6

- 1. Christianity is **no different** than any other religion. All religions are ultimately the same.
- 2. Truth is **relative** and you cannot say certain beliefs are right and others are wrong.
- 3. Natural sciences are more **reliable sources** of truth than the Bible, which is a book full of contradictions, written by fallible humans.

IV. **How to be aware of Satan's tactics! Know yourself - If you were Satan how would you attack you?**

Study Questions for January 31

- 1. Read 2 Corinthians 6:6-7. What other weapons are at our disposal?
- 2. Read Ephesians 6:10-18. In what ways do each of these pieces of armor act as defenses against Satanic attacks? What are the two offensive weapons?
- 3. Read Isaiah 59:15-21. What similarities do you see in this passage and in Ephesians 6:10-18? Whose armor are we ultimately putting on according to these two passages?
- 4. Read Matthew 16:13-18. Who is on the offensive in this passage, the church or the gates of Hell? Why do you say that?

¹Ingram, Chip, *The Invisible War*, pub. by Baker Books, 2006, pp. 118-21