



Review – Seven Commitments of Membership that Matters

- 1.) A Commitment to Unity (4:1-6)
- 2.) A Commitment to Ministry (4:7-16)
- 3.) A Commitment to Growth (4:17-32)
- 4.) A Commitment to Kindness (4:25-5:2)
- 5.) A Commitment to Purity (5:3-20)
- 6.) A Commitment to Family (5:21-6:4)
- 7.) Today – A Commitment to _____ (6:10-20)

-- Whether we realize it or not, every Christian is engaged in a serious spiritual battle.

1.) Our enemy is the _____ and his _____ (v. 12).

-- Our battle is not against _____.

-- We work for Satan when waste our strength battling the wrong foe (Titus 3:9-10).

-- Don't waste your strength fighting other people. Fight against Satan on their behalf (Rom. 12:21).

-- Our enemy is _____ (v. 12).

-- It is a terrible mistake to underestimate our adversary (1 John 5:19).

-- Satan is so formidable that he was able to deceive God's chosen people into murdering His only Son on a cruel cross.

2.) Our enemy desires our _____ (v. 11).

-- Paul calls us to take a stand because Satan works to make us fall.

- Satan doesn't just want our lives to be a little bit harder; he wants our complete and total destruction (1 Peter 5:8).
- He wants everyone on earth separated from God and with him in the total destruction of hell forever.

3.) Our enemy employs _____ (v. 11, 2 Cor. 11:14, Jn. 8:44).

1.) He tells us that little things are big.

- a.) He tells us that our _____ are the greatest good.
- b.) He tells us we should carry tomorrow today (Matthew 6:3).
- c.) He tells we should carry the past forever.
- d.) He convinces us to live like this temporal world is ultimate.

2.) He tells us that big things are little.

- a.) He persuades us to put first things last (Mark 8:36).
- b.) He seeks to separate us from _____ and prayer.

3.) He compels us to forget our first _____.

- Satan has no problem with ceremonial religious activity; he hates genuine affection for and devotion to Christ (Revelation 2:2-5).
- Satan wants us to exchange a vibrant relationship with Christ for empty religion.

Application

1.) Live by the _____ (v. 10)

- We are not strong in ourselves. We are only strong in the Lord (v. 10, 2 Corinthians 4:6-7).
- As we battle the deadly adversary, the devil, remember David who was strong in the Lord and fought the good fight of faith (1 Samuel 17:26-47).

2.) Take a _____ (v. 10).

- Notice the repetition of the exhortation to "stand" (v. 10-13).
- J.C. Ryle – "He who would understand the nature of true holiness must know that the Christian is a man of war. If we would be holy, we must fight" (1 Tim. 6:12, 2 Tim. 2:3, 1 Cor.16:13).
- The true church of Christ is meant by God to draw lines in the sand and take a stand for holiness.

- Authentic Christian living is neither a spectator sport nor a “let go and let God” kind of existence.
- If we would walk in a manner worthy of our calling, then we must be strong in the Lord, and we must be and completely committed to fight the good fight of faith in Christ.