

The Wiles of the Devil (Ephesians 6:11-12)

- I. **Introduction**
 - A. Kirk vs. Kang; Federation vs. Klingon; or both vs. another force?
 - B. The church's battle with our unseen enemy – Ephesians 6:11-12
 - C. Recap from last time: *Who is our enemy?*
 1. An Ancient, Brutal, Cunning Foe
 - D. Outline of today's reconnaissance meeting
 1. Thomas Brook's *Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices*
- II. **For we do not wrestle with flesh and blood**
 - A. Do not be ignorant of his devices (2 Cor 2:11, 2 Tim 2:26)
 1. Remember Pearl Harbor
 - B. *Wrestling* suggests a personal one-on-one fight
 1. Satan stands in opposition to God's particular grace
 2. This is the wile of lions and wolves - isolating their prey
- III. **Satan's personal wiles against you**
 - A. Present the bait and hide the hook
 1. it worked on Eve (Gen 3:4-6)
 2. he hides the hook so well, that you don't even think its bait
 - a. a sin by any other name ...
 3. don't worry, its such a little sin, it won't hurt anyone
 - a. 1 Cor 5:6 – *a little leaven, leavens the whole lump*
 - b. men have been destroyed for not dealing with little sins
 - c. don't forget the gospel is for little sins as well as big
 4. beware the potent drawing power of the world (1 Jn 2:15-17)
 - a. an effective soul-destroying scheme (Mark 4:7, Matt 13:22)
 - B. Shrouding lies in truth
 1. "God is merciful"
 - a. yes He is, but ... (Ex 34:6-7, Rom 2:5)
 - b. yes, but He poured out his wrath against sin on His son
 2. "Repentance is easy"
 - a. it is? what about Esau?
 - b. repentance is a gift that should not be presumed
(2 Tim 2:25, Hos 4:17, Ps 81:12, 2 Thess 2:11)
 - c. a leopard can change his spots sooner than a sinner repent
 - C. Accusing, inciting fear in, and condemning the brethren
 1. Never forget the promises (1 Jn 2:1-2, 1:9, Rom 8:31-37, 8:1)
- IV. **Some Precious Remedies or Defenses (putting your armor to use)**
 - A. **James 4:7** Resist the devil
 - B. **Rom 12:9-10** (Prov 5:8, 4:14-15) Keep out of harms way
 - C. **Rom 6:23** Realize the severity of sin's consequences
 - D. **Heb 3:13** Exhort one another daily – work for one another's sanctification (James 5:16)
 - E. **Heb 12:1-2** Maintain a heavenly focus
 - F. **Heb 12:7-11** Learn from affliction and chastening (Ps 119:71)