

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

- I. **Introduction**
 - A. Illustration out of Greek Mythology: Sirens (2 Cor 11:13, 3)
 - B. This is our third of three reconnaissance meetings
 - C. Ephesians 6:11-12 - Recap of last meetings
 1. An Ancient, Brutal, Cunning Foe
 2. Three personal wiles of the devil waged against individuals
 - D. Outline of today's reconnaissance meeting
- II. **The wiles of the devil against individuals**
 - A. Presenting the crosses and trials which attend those who follow Christ
 1. To discourage you
 2. The devil in Job's wife
 3. **Remedy:** Understand the benefit of afflictions (Heb 12:10)
 4. **Remedy:** Know that the worst affliction is momentary and light
 - B. Presenting the delicacies and enjoyments that this world has to offer
 1. **Remedy:** the love of Christ surpasses all worldly loves
 2. **Remedy:** Know that this world is passing away
 3. The world and Christ are two competing loves (1 John 2:15-17)
 4. The cares of this world choke the Word (Mk 4:7, Mt 13:22)
 - C. Presenting the outward mercies that vain men enjoy
 1. God turned Israel over to the love for the world (Jer 44:16-18)
 2. The happiness of those who have compromised
 3. **Remedy:** *there are no greater affliction than to not be afflicted*
 4. Psalm 73 – this is a difficult wile to understand ... until ...
 5. The misery of getting what you want (Ps 106:12-15)
 - D. Pre-empting a work from its inception
 - E. Provoking comparison to other 'more sinful' than oneself
 1. This is plainly Pharisaical
 - F. To corrupt you through wicked associations with evil men
 1. **Remedy:** Regard wicked men in Biblical terms (eg. *viper, thistle*)
- III. **The wiles of the devil against the body of Christ as a whole**
 - A. The wile of false teaching and false teachers
 1. so many lives wasted serving apostate ministries
 2. Satan is in the church (2 Cor 11:13-15)
 3. More religious people populate hell than atheists
 4. What have they added to Christ alone?
 - a. false teachings in the name of Christ (Mt 24:5)
 5. God's hatred of legalism (Gal 1:8, 2:21-3:4, 4:9-11, 5:9-12)
 6. Satan's wile to pervert the Gospel of sovereign grace into a gospel of "I will" thus robbing God of His free will
 - a. Words from Spurgeon on this matter
 - B. The simplicity of the one true God-glorifying Gospel in which God is exalted and man humbled