

## **Trials: Understanding the Unseen Realities**

### **Parts Three and Four: April 15 and 22, 2020**

#### **Understanding the Enemy's Tactics**

13. What are the enemy's tactics against us?

- \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word (Gen. 3:1)
  - "Yea, hath God said?"
  - "Hath God said it to \_\_\_\_\_?"
  
- Outright \_\_\_\_\_ (Gen. 3:4-5)
  - He will directly \_\_\_\_\_ God.
  - He will will mix some \_\_\_\_\_ with his lie to make the lie more appealing.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 6:16; 2 Tim. 1:7-8, 4:16-17; 1 Pet. 5:8)
  - Eph. 6:16: His fiery darts can include fears.
  - 1 Tim. 1:7-8: He will do all he can to scare us out of our faith, frighten us out of serving God, or make us timid or \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1 Pet. 5:8: He will try to intimidate us by his \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor. 2:7, 11)
  - He will try to "swallow us up" with "overmuch \_\_\_\_\_."
  
- \_\_\_\_\_-driving between believers (2 Cor. 2:8-11)
  - He will exploit any lack of forgiveness or full reconciliation by trying to drive a wedge between believers.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ (Job 2:9-10)
  - Doubt spirals downward to discouragement and then to despair, which is a deep pit of much sorrow mixed with much \_\_\_\_\_.
  - In trials, Satan may try to get us to give in to despair as he tried to do with Job through his despairing \_\_\_\_\_—"curse God and die" (1:11, 2:5).
  - Important application: We must be extremely careful what we say to people when we are living in \_\_\_\_\_. If we allow the devil to use our mind for a playground, we may become his instrument for taking someone else down (Matt. 16:22-23).

- Guilt and \_\_\_\_\_ (Job 4:12-21)
  - Satan may suggest untrue thoughts to our minds or attempt to amplify guilt (as he did with Eliphaz) by telling us that:
    - “God isn’t \_\_\_\_\_” (vs. 18).
    - “You’re too big a \_\_\_\_\_ for God to help you” (vs. 17, 19).
    - “God doesn’t \_\_\_\_\_” (vs. 19-20).
  - Insight 1: Satan may try to use guilt to compound our doubts.
  - Insight 2: Just a little suggestion can go a long way. Satan will start with any suggestion that works (against ourselves or others), but ultimately, he will accuse \_\_\_\_\_ of being unfair.
  - Insight 3: Satan probably can’t read our thoughts, but he can whisper suggestions to our \_\_\_\_\_ without words.