

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

### **Part Five: April 29, 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)
- \_\_\_\_\_ and intimidation (Eph. 6:16; 2 Tim. 1:7-8, 4:16-17; 1 Pet. 5:8)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor. 2:7, 11)
  - "Overmuch sorrow" = a greater or more abundant \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_-driving between believers (2 Cor. 2:8-11)
  - He will exploit a lack of a forgiving spirit or full reconciliation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (Job 2:9-10)
  - Downward spiral = doubt to discouragement (when doubts "swallow" you) to despair (a deep pit of much sorrow mixed with much \_\_\_\_\_).
  - Important application: We must be extremely careful what we say to people when we are living in \_\_\_\_\_.
- 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.

#### **Understanding the Stakes**

14. What are the stakes in this unseen struggle?

- God's \_\_\_\_\_ (see Job 1:8-11, 2:3-6, 1 Tim. 5:14)
  - Satan's ultimate objective is to \_\_\_\_\_ God.
  - If our response to trials may be a subject of conversation in heaven, we don't want to bring \_\_\_\_\_ to the name of our Lord.
  - Don't give the devil any launching pad to speak slander or reviling against us before God in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - In trials, we have opportunity in response to show we love God because we \_\_\_\_\_ to and not just because He does nice things for us.

- My \_\_\_\_\_ (see 1 Pet. 1:7, 2 Cor. 4:17-18, James 1:2-4, 12)
  - 1 Pet. 1:7—Who will receive praise, honor, and glory from the trial of our faith? Both God and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2 Cor. 4:17-18—our “light, momentary affliction or pressure” “fully work out” for us a “far more exceeding into exceeding,” heaping abundance upon abundance, eternal, heavy \_\_\_\_\_ of glory.
    - Three contrasts: \_\_\_\_\_ vs. heavy, momentary vs. \_\_\_\_\_, affliction vs. glory.
  - Our part in trials:
    - Keep our \_\_\_\_\_ of faith on eternal things.
    - Be \_\_\_\_\_.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ with God.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ the test.