

THE BATTLE IS IN THE MIND

I. Satan's Attack Against Man Seems to be Greatly Restricted

A. Job

Job 1-2

1. God put a hedge around Job
2. Despite the hedge Satan was still challenging God
3. Satan was given permission to go past that hedge
4. Satan mercilessly takes as much ground as he was given
5. Job wins in the conflict by not blaming God

B. Eve

1. Satan comes to destroy but he apparently cannot directly attack Eve
2. His sole recourse is to speak lies to her
3. When he was finished Eve had two sets of information
 - a. God's word
 - b. Satan's word
 - c. Eve would have to decide who to trust

C. Jesus in the wilderness

1. Satan comes personally
2. Satan does not attack Jesus physically
3. Satan speaks
4. Jesus has His Father's words and Satan's words
 - a. Jesus had to decide who He would trust

II. Key Principle: The Spiritual Conflict Takes Place in the Mind and the Issue is Faith

III. Key Principle: When the Truth of God's Word is Challenged by the Devil's Lies, I Become the Slave of Whomever I Listen To

- A. Satan holds men in bondage by deception
1. He is the one who deceives the whole world
 2. Thoughts become the cells in which he imprisons men and women

B. God sets men free by bringing down those strongholds

1. 2 Corinthians 10:3-6

2. Taking every thought captive

C. When we enter into the ministry of the Word we are facing powers of darkness

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.

~ 2 Corinthians 10:3-6