

A PLOY OF THE DEVIL

LESSON 17 – OUTLINE

- I. “Spiritual warfare,” as it’s popularly presented today, is actually a ploy of the devil.
 - A. Consider the fruit: Christians are encouraging Christians not to preach the Gospel but just to pray instead.
 - B. The devil delights when we give ourselves to praying fruitless, religious prayers.
 - C. Church history abounds with example after example of the Enemy luring Christians into doing all kinds of impressive-looking—but powerless—spiritual calisthenics.
 - D. As believers, our focus should be on preaching the Gospel and proclaiming the truth of God’s Word to all people everywhere.
- II. It’s not a matter of either preaching or praying; they should be done together.
 - A. People are born again by the incorruptible seed of God’s Word (1 Pet. 1:23).
 - B. Therefore, before you water, you must plant the seed!

That utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel.

EPHESIANS 6:19

- C. Paul asked people to pray that he would speak with revelation, authority, and power and that miracles would be done in Jesus’ mighty name.
- D. Prayer is an important part of the Gospel, but it can never be substituted for the preaching of God’s Word.

Not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth.

ACTS 19:27

- E. The New Testament emphasizes the proclaiming of God’s Word!

- III. Through His death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus released all the power it takes for massive worldwide revival.
 - A. We just haven't been receiving it.
 - B. Revival is going to come as people yield themselves to God, not as they twist His arm more through "intercession" and "spiritual warfare."
 - C. Study the atonement of Jesus, and follow the example of the book of Acts.
 - D. Once you've been to the victory parade, you will never fear Satan again.
 - E. You will be set free and able to boldly minister God's freedom to others!

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LESSON 17 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. According to 1 Peter 1:23, are we born again of a corruptible seed?
2. What is the incorruptible seed?
3. What lives and abides forever?
4. Who was speaking in Ephesians 6:19?
5. Paul asked that utterance be what?
6. That he may open his mouth how?
7. To make what known?
8. Who was speaking in Acts 19:27?
9. What did Demetrius say about his craft?
10. What was in danger of being despised?
11. Diana's magnificence was about to be what?
12. Who worshiped her?

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LESSON 17 – SCRIPTURES

1 PETER 1:23

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

EPHESIANS 6:19

And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel.

ACTS 19:27

So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth.