

Today's Theme

Ready For The Battle

Series Title

“Making Much of Jesus”

Part 10 June 5, 2022

The “Enemies We Face” following Jesus

1. The *space between me & Jesus.*

John 10:26 but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. 27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; . . .

John 15:15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

- (1) *Closeness* to Jesus determines *success*.
- (2) Spend time *talking & listening* to Jesus.
- (3) *Closer* the friendship more *effective* life is.

2. The *devil trying to distract me.*

James 4:7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 1 Peter 5:8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

- (1) The devil is a *personal* enemy when we *believe*.
- (2) When *proactive* w/Jesus we *face* opposition.
- (3) The evil one will *harass* us - Be *ready*.

3. The *legalist* who have a *high* view of self.

Mark 7:5 So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?”

Luke 9:46 An argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest. 47 Jesus, knowing their thoughts, took a little child and had him stand beside him. 48 Then he said to them, “Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest.” 49 “Master,” said John, “we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him, because he is not one of us.” 50 “Do not stop him,” Jesus said, “for whoever is not against you is for you.”

- (1) Part of His *mission* was to *confront* legalism.
- (2) *Rule* worshipers *blind* us to what God values.
- (3) God wanted *Jews* to be a *blessing* to the nations.

4. *Moving away from Jesus & His words.*

Matt 7:24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Matt 7:26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.

- (1) Jesus wants us to *know* His *ways*.
- (2) Jesus & His words can be *watered* down.
- (3) Putting his words into *practice* blesses *all*.

Moral of the story in Matt 7

1. *Anyone* can *hear* His words.
2. *All* will *face* storms.
3. *Acting* on His words is *key*.