

John # 82 “Satan's New Target” *John 14:12; John 16:7-14*

All believers have obviously tasted of the grace of God but not all choose to feast on it.

Babes in Christ have an excuse but for seasoned veterans, there's no excuse for not wanting to learn of our so great salvation and our glorious Lord who's responsible for it.

And among those who are willing to learn of Jesus, not all are willing to apply what they learn proving that they have believed what Jesus has said.

We cannot utilize biblical truth that we haven't processed meaning studied, understood and believed

As Jesus is about to leave for Heaven, He anticipates an intensification of the angelic dispute between the forces of evil and those of good in the lives His disciples and He knows that once He is glorified, seated at the right Hand of His Father, God the Holy Spirit will produce the power and impact necessary to meet the struggles of the intensified dispute by way of biblical truth applied in our lives.

The resurrection and ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ causes a shift in the focus of the angelic dispute from the Lord in Heaven to His followers on earth.

Every believer in Jesus Christ is now a target for Satan and his demon armies and because of this, God has made special power provisions for every one of us.

Jesus taught biblical truth to His disciples to protect them from the Evil One because they were about to go under maximum pressure, the pressure of His crucifixion and departure.

Our Lord's betrayal, His bogus trials and crucifixion will shake His disciples up big time and that's why Jesus has given us His Words of encouragement in the Bible so we would not be shocked, confused and utterly disappointed at the thought of any formerly discouraging prospects.

Religion is the inevitable result of a negative reaction to God and His truth which causes scar tissue to form on the soul and then this unchecked negative reaction with its scar tissue blocks the breathing capacity of the soul, opening up a vacuum within the soul.

And Satan brings his alluring deceptive thoughts through that vacuum into the soul of the born again believer.

Mental attitude sins like hatred and jealousy motivate the religious to be active in persecution even to the point of murder which of course is conveniently rationalized as a service for God.

Hostility from unseen forces of angels against us will be great but the provision of God from eternity past is far greater; so always remember “Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.”

This provision of biblical truth becomes a reality through constant soul breathing; inhaling God's truth and exhaling confidence in Him and courage toward our circumstances.

*The worst thing for us is to be discouraged at a critical moment and that will quickly turn to disorientation;
so that instead of orienting to Jesus Christ and His cross, we become overwhelmed with our circumstances.*

In the local church assembly, the believer-priest has a maximum amount of privacy to learn the Word for his own spiritual growth.

And as a result of learning biblical truth in his local assembly, the believer becomes spiritually self-sustained as he attains spiritual adulthood.

A believer must be FHS during Bible teaching and of course, the pastor must also be FHS at that time.

This means that the Holy Spirit is involved in all areas of transmission—from the inspiration of the Scriptures, to its interpretation by the pastor-teacher, to its communication in the assembly and finally to its reception by the congregation.