

1/7/91

All through my life I have been saddened by seeing the success of Satan's efforts to prevent people from receiving the Word of God. The enemy of souls is very, very clever. (?) your believe (?) we are unable to defeat him, but God has promised that if we submit ourselves to Him and follow Him completely, He will give us victory over the great attacks and fiery darts of Satan, but also over his clever wiles that lead so many people astray.

An illustration of Satan's cleverness that has impressed me on many occasions is that of the man who men who are having atugo of war. Satan pulls at one end and Christians pull at the other, trying to keep from being dragged over the brink into denial of God's Word or failure to accomplish God's purpose. He is always clever in using good things in order to prevent God's servants from doing God's will. Jesus said that the fields are ripe unto harvest. We have had students and started a little group and worked and toiled to gather people around them while perhaps sometimes supporting themselves through secular work as long as it was necessary to do so, but spending every possible minute reaching those who do not know Christ, and, over a term of years, gathering a group of earnest Christians around them who ~~have~~ eventually become able to support them, and to reach out and ^{reach} reach others for the Lord. It always pains me when a ,am fomds ot mecessaru tp dp tjos bit 0 rekpoce wjem 0 see ot being done and the work accomplished

I man finds it necessary to do this but I rejoice when I see it being done and the work accompli accomplished for Crhsit.

However, for ^{everyone} every ~~one~~ one whom I have seen doing a work like this there are five there are five, at least, ;more like twenty, whom I have known who know know the Word of God and have a desire to be His messengers, but whom Satan is able to divert to fields areas in which they can accomplish little.

Satan will tear us away from loyalty to the great prin- iples of God's Word if he can. If he can't he will let go of the rope and we, having tugged so hard/ against his efforts, now fall over backward and are easily kept from accomplishing anything/ worth while worth3while for Christ.

When we allow great multitudes of people be kept from hearing the Word of God, and do nothing to reach them, but instead spend all our time dealing with little groups of people who already know the Gospel, truly Satan is having a great victory.

Over and over in my life I have seen men who desired to serve Christ and felt that they could go right out and serve Him without prepra preparation. With a great effort we have persuaded them that they need greater knowledge and greater training and they think a year or two of a Bible school is all they need.