

(Clip) Satan's Plan to Distract the Christian

by Don Currin

The sermon highlights how Satan's distractions can lead Christians away from a vital relationship with Christ, emphasizing the need for intentional spiritual focus.

Duration: 5:22

Scripture: Psalm 46:10, Proverbs 4:23, Matthew 6:33, Mark 4:19, Romans 12:2, Colossians 3:2, Hebrews 12:1-2, James 4:8, 1 John 2:15-17

Topics: "Spiritual Decline", "Intimacy With God"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the gradual process of spiritual decline, warning against compromising values and losing intimacy with Christ. It uses a satirical story to illustrate how distractions and busyness can hinder believers from forming a deep connection with Jesus, leading to a life of spiritual emptiness and separation from God.

Transcript

You see friend, the truth of the matter is, a person doesn't go from walking red hot with God in intimate fellowship with the Savior to a life of evil overnight. It's a slow downward process. They begin to compromise the best thing for good things and it's not long before they start compromising good things for that which is evil.

It meant for good preaching years ago to curse the charismatics. After all, some of their big name boys bit the dust to immorality. But I tell you friend, we have just as many evangelicals, fundamentalists, and reformed people in the church that are falling.

You mark my word tonight, it did not begin with them going from having a vital relationship with the Savior to total apostasy in one night. It was a slow process as you'll see in the life of King Solomon. This is a warning.

It is a shepherd's warning. And I want to begin tonight by sharing with you a little satire that I trust will kind of settle things that you might understand where we're going this evening. It's called The Plan.

Satan called a worldwide convention. In the opening address to his evil spirits, he said, we can't keep true Christians from going to church. We can't keep them from reading their Bibles and knowing the truth.

We can't even keep them from having conservative values. But we can do something else. We can keep them from forming an intimate, abiding experience with Christ.

If they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken. So let them go to church, read their Bibles, and have their conservative lifestyles, but steal their time so that they do not have time to have an intimate fellowship with Christ. This is what I want you to do.

Distract them from laying hold of Jesus Christ. And maintain that vital connection throughout their day. How shall we do this? They ask.

Keep them busy in the non-essentials of life. And invent innumerable schemes to occupy their minds. Tempt them to spend and spend and borrow and borrow.

Convince the young wife that they have to work. And the husband that they must work six days a week for ten or twelve hours a day so they can afford their lifestyles. Keep them from spending time with their children.

As their family fragments, soon their homes will offer no escape from the pressures of work. Over-stimulate their minds so they cannot hear that still, small voice. Entice them to play the stereo whenever they drive.

Have them keep the TV, VCR, or their CDs going constantly in their homes. See to it that every restaurant and store in the world plays music constantly. This will jam their minds and break their union with Christ.

Pound their minds with news and weather 24 hours a day. Invade their time in the car with gaudy and glaring billboards. Flood their email and mailboxes with filth and junk mail to make them stumble.

Even on vacation, let them be excessive. Have them return from their time away exhausted, disquieted, and unprepared for the upcoming week. Don't let them go into nature.

Send them to amusement parks, sporting events, concerts, movies, and shopping malls instead. And when they meet for spiritual fellowship, don't let them talk about anything deep or where they're struggling. Discourage them from enjoying His presence when they're together.

Instead, make them fearful of opening up and fill their time with small talk, idle chatter, frivolous laughter, and gossip so they will leave with troubled consciences and unsettled emotions. Let them be involved in soul winning. But crown their lives with so many good causes that they have no time to seek strength from Christ.

Soon they'll be working in their own strength, sacrificing their family and health for the sake of the vision. It was quite a convention. At the end, the demonic spirits went eagerly to their assignments, causing Christians everywhere to get busy with life and pull them away from the One Who is life.

Have they been successful? You judge.

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