

RECOGNIZE SATAN'S TACTICS

We need to use each piece of armor against the enemy's many methods of warfare.

- A. First tactic is division. (He is the Divider.)
 - 1. Divided loyalties. (Matt. 6:24; James 1:8)
 - 2. God provides the *girdle of truth*. This speaks of integrity as a soldier who is completely devoted to winning the battle. Our whole life must be pulled together by truth.
- B. Second tactic is denouncing and accusing.
 - 1. He works in our consciences, constantly reminding us of our past mistakes and sins.
 - 2. God provides the *breastplate of righteousness*. Satan wants us to dwell on past failures instead of living for Christ today. (Eph. 6:14)
- C. Third tactic is destroying as the great destroyer.
 - 1. He wants to move in and bring war. We are not armored for battle against good or good people.
 - 2. God provides the *shoes of peace*. We are standing in peace and resting in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ; Satan cannot destroy us.
- D. Fourth tactic is causing doubt.
 - 1. He loves to throw the fiery darts of doubt at us.
 - 2. God provides the *shield of faith*. Faith is in the Word of God and in the God of the Word when we have faith in the power of God. He will shield us from Satan's attacks and give us victory. (Eph. 6:16)
- E. Fifth tactic is causing great discouragement.
 - 1. He assails us with setbacks and frustration until we are ready to quit. When we lose hope, we lose the battle.
 - 2. God provides the *helmet of salvation*. Salvation means conqueror and He is our Hope of deliverance so we can keep going in the midst of discouragement.
- F. Sixth tactic is causing us to deny the faith.
 - 1. He tries to get us to deny everything the Word of God teaches.
 - 2. God provides the *sword of the Spirit*, the memorized Word of God. When Satan tries to cause us to deny our faith, we need to take the sword of the Spirit and answer his denials with God's affirmations - "It is written..."

Satan is using every evil tactic he can to defeat us. This is why we need the whole armor of God. We must also depend on the energy that God provides (Eph. 6:18). Why should we pray for all the saints? Because we are all in the same battle. If they fall, it will effect us. We gain new energy and strength for the battle through prayer (1 Thess. 5:17). Prayer is the means by which we receive God's unlimited source of energy. Because we are living in the evil day, we must be strong in the Lord. The enemy is strong and the outcome is serious. We are either going to be victors or victims. We must be strong because Jesus paid dearly for our victory. Put on the whole armor He has bought for you and claim the victory in Him.