

## Chapter 13

### Divide And Conquer: 4 Schemes Satan Uses

When a red warning light appears on the dashboard of your car, do you respond by smashing the light with a hammer? Probably not. Why? Because you recognize that the red light is a warning: "something is wrong." In the same way, life presents warnings that indicate that Satan and his legions of demons are using "divide and conquer" schemes to ultimately make you ineffective for God's plans for your life.

"Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and turn away from evil."  
(Proverbs 3:7)

"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil".  
(Ephesians 6:11)

Four "Divide-And-Conquer" Schemes:

#1) Individuals double-minded:

Satan is not concerned when you attend church on Sunday, so long as he is able to "compartmentalize" our lives into "sacred" and "secular": "Praise The Lord" on Sunday; living the worldview of the society around us on Monday. The Bible refers to this as being "double-minded".

But once we realize that, here is what we can do:

*"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."*

(James 1:5-8)

## #2) Families in discord:

Satan and his legions of demons will instigate discord in a marriage to the extent that the couple will believe that there is no way that the marriage can be salvaged; that dividing the family is the only recourse.

*“Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.”* (Ephesians 4:26-27)

Download this next Scripture into your mind, and start to live by it!! Do it! Do it now!!

*“Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”* (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

Incidentally: When the "kick-back" response to something you said is massively out of proportion to what you said; when it seems like you stepped on a land mine; you can be sure that you are talking to someone who has a demonic stronghold (fortress) in them!

Instead, we must respond in this way:

*“...let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.”* (James 1:19b-20)

quick to hear God's point of view.

slow to speak my point of view.

slow to anger — when my point of view differs from God's point of view!

## #3) Churches in disunity:

Satan and his legions of demons will construct the thinking of a group in a church congregation such that, rather than realizing that our strength is in our unity, an entire body of believers will choose to walk out. They leave because they don't know Scriptures such as this:

*“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”* (Ephesians 4:11~16)

Personal Note: I myself watched with astonishment as the church I once was in allowed the devil to work his "divide and conquer" scheme on the congregation twice! To this day I do not understand why some pastors are not teaching these truths to their congregation.

#4) Society divided:

We can almost see the puppet strings attached to many "leaders" in high places in government!

And see the result: Satan and his legions of demons have caused our own government to push almost anything having to do with God out of the public square! Thus we have high school boys armed with powerful weapons of war walking into schools and slaughtering students and teachers!

And do we not see--almost on a daily basis--the shocking stories of sexual immorality committed by powerful men in otherwise respected companies--as well as clergy members victimizing young children?

It's astonishing that nobody talks about "the elephant in the room"--namely, that Satan and his legions of demons are orchestrating all of these things.

And why not? They have arranged for our public schools to teach our children that evolution and science--not those silly fairy-tales in the Bible--can (or soon will) explain everything in the universe.

But true, unbiased science, supports Creation, not evolution.

The forces of evil laugh at us!

Satan and his legions of demons have kept most Christians from knowing a critically important truth: God does not function in a context of disunity!

Thus the enemy strives to keep the human race in disarray.

But the demons are loyal to their commander. They are not a house divided!

But here are our weapons--our power to overcome!

The whole armor of God:

*“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. for we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, the spiritual forces of evil in Heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.”*

(Ephesians 6:10-18)

Here is how we ought to regard one another:

*“Peace be to the brothers,[and sisters] and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ;Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.” (Ephesians 6:23-24)*

Love incorruptible? Nothing I might add could top that!