

The Battle for Your Mind

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Main Scripture Text: 2 Corinthians 11:1–6

“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”

2 CORINTHIANS 11:3

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Introduction

Take God’s holy, inspired, inerrant, infallible, impeccable, beautiful Word, the Bible, and would you open it, please, to 2 Corinthians 11? And, in just a moment, we’re going to begin our reading in verse 1—2 Corinthians 11. I want to talk to you about a mind—your mind. I want to give you a checkup from the neck up. We’re going to be thinking about your mind. I hear often on television a statement like this: “A mind is a terrible thing to waste,” and that is true. But, my dear friend, did you know that you could waste your mind even on education if you don’t give that mind to Jesus? Now, I’m not against education; I’m for it, and get all you can. But, I want to tell you, I had rather be in heaven saying my ABCs than to be in hell spouting philosophy. What about your mind? Is your mind fulfilling the purpose for which God created that mind? Indeed, a mind is a terrible,

terrible thing to waste.

Second Corinthians 11:1—the Apostle Paul is having to authenticate his apostleship, and he says, *“Would to God [that] ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me”*—now, what Paul is saying is, “I hate to be talking about myself, but I must do it because some of you have not accepted me as the apostle that I am.” And then, he talks to the Corinthian church, and he says—*“I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste”*—that means “a pure”—*“virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your”*—and here’s our word—*“so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him. For I suppose I was not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles. But though I be rude in speech, yet not in knowledge; but we have been thoroughly made manifest among you in all things.”* (2 Corinthians 11:1–6)

Now, at first blush, that may seem a little difficult to understand. But, if you will stay with me today and listen, you’re going to find out something very wonderful—not because I’m saying it, but because God has already said it. I want you to think today about the battle for your mind, and there are three basic thoughts that I want to give you and they deal with Satan, who wants to take your mind and destroy your mind. Actually, he wants to take your mind and use your mind as a battleground, a citadel, from which to war on God.

I. Satan’s Singular Determination

So, look with me, first of all, at what I’m going to call “Satan’s singular determination”—“Satan’s singular determination.” Satan is very single-minded in what he is doing. He is determined to do something. Now, here’s what he’s determined to do. Here is Satan’s singular determination. Here is Satan’s chiefest strategy: it is to corrupt your mind. The key verse is verse 3: *“[For] I fear, lest by any means, as [though] the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”* (2 Corinthians 11:3)

Now, in order to get the figure of speech that Paul is using, Paul thinks of himself as a godly father; he thinks of the Corinthian Christians as his spiritual children. And, he is saying that “you are engaged to be married to the Lord Jesus Christ. I am your father, and I want to present you, my daughter, as a pure virgin to Jesus.” There’s coming a wedding in the sky. When the Lord Jesus comes for His bride, the Church is going to be caught up to meet the Lord in the air, and there’s going to be a wedding in the sky. And, the Apostle Paul says, “I want, at that time when you meet Jesus, I want you to be

absolutely pure.” Look, if you will, in verse 2: *“For I am jealous over you with [a] godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I [might] present you as a [pure]”—*that is, “as a chaste”—*“virgin to Christ.”* (2 Corinthians 11:2) Now, there’s nothing wrong with jealousy if it is godly jealousy, and Paul was jealous for these people, that they might be pure and true to the Lord Jesus Christ. He said, “I want you, when you meet Jesus, to be a virgin church.”

And, you know, we ought to have some dads like that in the material realm also who see it as their privilege and their responsibility to keep their daughters pure. We ought to have some fathers who see it as their duty and responsibility to keep their sons pure. Now today, young people are being told that it’s all right to practice premarital sex—not from the Word of God it’s not, not from the Word of God. My dear friend, the Bible teaches premarital chastity and post-marital fidelity. Never, never forget it. You eat your cake today; you’ll have a crummy tomorrow. Friend, let me tell you something: God has a plan, and it is premarital chastity, post-marital fidelity. And so, the Apostle Paul says to the Church, “I want to present you as a pure virgin to the Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Corinthians 11:2)

Now, you say, “Well, is the Bible against sex?” No, the Bible is very much for sex. When God says, *“Thou shalt not commit adultery”* (Exodus 20:14)—when God says, *“Flee fornication”* (1 Corinthians 6:18)—God is not trying to keep you from sex; God is trying to keep sex for you. It is God’s wonderful, glorious, and pure gift, and so many are selling out so cheaply.

One of the most interesting stories I have read in a long time took place many years ago in London when a shabbily dressed man carrying an old violin shuffled into a shop and there offered the violin for sale to the seller of violins. And, the man who had the shop had so many violins. He said, “I don’t need another violin.” But, he said, “Please, I need money. Take my violin. Buy my violin.” So, Mr. Betts gave the beggar five dollars—the equivalency of five dollars in English money—for that old violin, and the ragged man stumbled out in the darkness. Then, the shop owner, Mr. Betts, who himself was a musician, thought he’d try the old violin, and he tucked it under his chin and pulled the bow across the strings. When he did, he heard such rich and resonant tones he knew this was not an ordinary violin. He lit a candle and looked inside and saw the magic name, Antonio Stradivari, and the date, 1704, and he realized this was a violin that had been missing for one hundred years. He realized it was of great worth. He took the violin and ran out and tried to find the old beggar. He couldn’t find him. Later on, he sold the violin for five thousand dollars. And now, dear friend, there’s no way to put a price on that old violin. I think of young people today who are taking something so priceless and they’re selling so cheap, so cheap—something that is so intrinsically valuable.

But, that's only a sideline to what I really want to say. I really want to talk to you not merely about physical purity, but I want to talk to you about spiritual purity. Do you know what Satan's singular determination is? Satan's singular determination is to draw away your devotion from the Lord Jesus Christ. Satan doesn't care how much you come to church. He doesn't care how beautifully you sing, how eloquently you may teach, how circumspectly you may walk, how liberally you may give, if you don't love Jesus Christ. Satan is just simply trying to pull away your devotion from Jesus.

Now, look again in verse 3: Paul says, "I have an apprehension. I have a fear that Satan, with his subtlety, might corrupt your mind." (2 Corinthians 11:3) If you have the King James, it says, "*from the simplicity that is in Christ.*" (2 Corinthians 11:3) You see the word *simplicity*? It doesn't mean "simplemindedness." The word *simplicity* means "pure devotion," "deep devotion," "single-hearted devotion." Everything that Satan is doing—his singular determination, his greatest aim—is to make you untrue to Jesus Christ. That's what Satan wants to do—to pull away your affection from Jesus Christ. You're to have a deep, loving, sacrificial, exciting, emotional, blazing, passionate, all-consuming love for Jesus Christ. That's the way you're to live. And, Satan's singular determination is to "*[corrupt your mind] from the simplicity that is in Christ,*" (2 Corinthians 11:3) from the pure devotion of loving the Lord Jesus Christ. This is what he's up to. He wants to keep you from loving the Lord Jesus with all of your heart, with all of your soul, and with all of your mind. You are, my dear friend, engaged to Jesus Christ. And, the marriage is coming, and God wants you to stay pure.

II. Satan's Subtle Device

Secondly, not only do I want you to see Satan's singular determination, but I want you to see Satan's subtle device. How does he do this? How does he draw away our attention from the Lord Jesus Christ? How does he get us to compromise with the world, the flesh, and the devil? Well, we don't have to guess. The Bible says right here in verse 3: "*[For] I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so*"—"in the same way"—"*your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity*"—that is, "the pure devotion"—"*that is in Jesus Christ.*" (2 Corinthians 11:3) Now, we already have a case history. How is Satan working on your mind today? Well, dear friend, "*[there's nothing new] under the sun.*" (Ecclesiastes 1:9) "As he deceived Eve..." (2 Corinthians 11:3) We already have a case history. We already know how he beguiled Eve, and what he did with Eve is what he wants to do with you.

Now, it's very clear that Satan is after your mind. Why is this? Well, the nutritionist tells us we are what we eat. The psychologist tells us we are what we think. The Bible tells us in Proverbs 23:7: "*As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.*" (Proverbs 23:7) The thought is the father of the deed. Before you can do anything, you must first think it. You

sow a thought; you reap a deed. You sow a deed; you reap a habit. Sow a habit; you reap a character. Sow a character; you reap a destiny. It all begins with the thought—the thought. If Satan has your mind, he has you.

So, what did Satan do in the Garden of Eden? How did Satan deceive Eve? Now, verse 3 says that the same way that Satan worked on Eve is the way he's going to work on you. (2 Corinthians 11:3) So, you have a head start on Mother Eve. She didn't have the Scriptures. She didn't have the history that you have. So, you have it right here.

A. **Doubt**

Now, you might want to turn to Genesis 3:1–6 and see exactly what Satan did to Eve, or you may just want to keep your finger here in the scripture that we have before you. I don't know which would be more helpful to you because I'm going to be going back and forth between the two because it says here, *“As the serpent beguiled Eve...so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”* (2 Corinthians 11:3) Now, in Genesis 3, beginning in verse 1, we find out how the serpent beguiled Eve, the old devil, when he first crawled his slimy, corroding path onto the pages of history. The Bible says, *“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field”*—now, go back again to chapter 11 and verse 3: *“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty...”* (2 Corinthians 11:3) Do you see the connection? It's the same thing—*“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”* (Genesis 3:1) Step number one: write down the word *doubt—doubt*. *“Hath God said...?”* (Genesis 3:1) Now, he did not say that God had not said; he didn't say that right away. The very first thing he did was to insinuate a doubt. And, may I tell every one of you that anybody who puts a question mark after the Word of God is doing the work of the devil? Anybody who causes you to doubt this book is an agent of Satan. The very first thing is doubt. All right. *“Hath God said...?”* (Genesis 3:1)

B. **Denial**

Now, and the Scripture goes on to say, *“And the woman said unto the serpent”*—that is, to old Satan—*“We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die.”* (Genesis 3:2–4) Now, he's ready for the second step. First one: doubt. Second: denial. After he has gotten you to doubt the Word of God, then he will try to get you to deny the Word of God. *“Ye shall not surely die.”* (Genesis 3:4) Now, Satan is very subtle. He just simply says, “Surely not, surely not” with such an air of certainty. It's to make the Word of God sound absurd.

C. Deception

Then, the third step: *“For God doth know that in the day [that] ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat.”* (Genesis 3:5–6) Third step is deception. You see, Satan doesn’t simply want you to deny the Word of God; he wants you to believe his lie. Now, the best lies sound the most like the truth—the best lies sound the most like the truth.

I almost missed an airplane the other day because my watch was five minutes wrong. I set it wrong. I didn’t know that I’d set it wrong, but evidently, carelessly, I set my watch wrong. When I got to the airport and thought I had ample time, the man behind the desk said, “Mister, you almost missed this plane,” and I said, “Well, I’ve still got time.” He said, “The plane is buttoning up.” I looked at my watch, and I looked at theirs. And, there was a difference of five minutes. Now, my dear friend, a clock five minutes wrong is more dangerous than a clock five hours wrong. You look at a clock five hours wrong, and you say, “Hey, that’s wrong. Somebody tell me the truth. Somebody tell me what time it is.” But, you look at a clock five minutes wrong, and it’s very hard to tell the difference.

Satan is the master liar, and his lies are so much like the truth. You see, first of all, there’s doubt. Then, there’s denial. And then, there comes deception. Now, what is this deception? Satan is not against religion; Satan is very much in favor of religion. Satan is in religion up to his ears. But, what he is into is false religion, substitute religion. It is a deceptive kind of religion. Satan says to Eve, “You will be like God.” (Genesis 3:5) Well, that’s a very religious message. It’s the same message that all of the New Agers have today. It wasn’t a temptation to fall down and be ungodly; it was a temptation to step up and be godly—but only do it Satan’s way. It is deception.

Now, go back to 2 Corinthians 11 and look in verse 4, and see this deception: *“For if he that cometh”—he’s talking now about a false apostle—“For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached”—*there were some people on our doorstep this past Friday, I believe it was, or Saturday. They were talking about Jesus, going from door to door. But, the Jesus that they were talking about was not the Jesus of this Bible. Now, a lot of people would not know the difference because these people said, “We believe in Jesus.” I said, “Let’s talk about what Jesus you believe in.” Now, look at it here—*“if he . . . preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received”—*don’t get the idea that everything that is spiritual is of God. My dear friend, the Bible speaks of *“spiritual wickedness in high places,”* (Ephesians 6:12) and the Bible says, *“Believe not every spirit, but [test] the spirits whether they [be] of God”* (1 John 4:1)—*“or another gospel,*

which ye have not accepted.” (2 Corinthians 11:4) There are a lot of people who say that they’re preaching the gospel of Jesus, but they are not preaching the true gospel; they’re preaching the devil’s gospel. You see how subtle the devil is. The devil doesn’t say, “Don’t believe in Jesus.” The devil doesn’t say, “Have nothing to do with the Holy Spirit.” The devil doesn’t say, “I’m against the gospel.” All he does is just give you another Jesus, another spirit, and another gospel. Pretty good, huh? Do you see what he’s doing? Do you understand his subtlety? You see, dear friend, he is a crafty liar.

So, when you look for the devil, don’t forget to look in the pulpit. Second Corinthians 11:13: *“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”* (2 Corinthians 11:13–15) You see, dear friend, Satan is occupying the pulpits of America. And, many a man who is an agent of the devil himself has some sort of a Doctor of Divinity degree or something after his name, and he’s called “reverend.” The great danger today is not the denial of the gospel of Christ; it is the corruption of the gospel of Christ. Paul said, *“I fear, lest...your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity [that’s] in Christ.”* (2 Corinthians 11:3) And, how’s it done? By subtlety.

D. Destruction

Now, you see what Satan does. First of all, there’s doubt. Then, there’s denial. Then, there is deception. And finally, there is destruction, and that destruction is to get your eyes off the Lord Jesus Christ. And, God said, *“In the day that [ye eat] thereof [ye shall] surely die,”* (Genesis 2:17) and Adam and Eve did die. Now, what kind of death is it? My dear friend, Satan is the sinister minister of death. Jesus said, concerning the devil, in John 8:44: *“He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth.”* (John 8:44) His motive is murder. His method is the lie. He wants to bring death to beauty, death to health, death to happiness, death to love. He wants to bring emotional death, and spiritual death, and physical death, and eternal death. He is a murderer, and he’s so subtle. He is so subtle.

III. Satan’s Sure Defeat

Now, let me move to the third and final thing. I have talked to you about Satan’s singular determination. He doesn’t care how much you attend church. His singular determination is to draw away your devotion from Jesus, from the simplicity that’s in Christ. That is his singular determination. Now, his subtle device—he’s going to do it the same way that he deceived Eve. You have a case history. I mean, why be deceived when it is so plain? It is right out there in the Word of God. But now, let me give you a third thing: I want to talk with you about Satan’s sure defeat. God has not left us helpless and hopeless. There is

a way.

Now, first of all, you're going to have to develop what I'm going to call "an intolerant mind." Now, most of us who are Bible believers—we are lampooned today, we're caricatured today, we're ridiculed today as Bible thumpers, rednecks, fundamentalists—"too much fun, too much damn, and not enough mental." They enjoy that. They enjoy ridiculing us. And, do you know the main thing they tell us? "You're intolerant"—"you're intolerant." Now, when the banker says, "Two and two is four," they don't call him intolerant. The surgeon works with precision; they don't call him intolerant. And, when the pilot of the aircraft flies according to the rules of aviation, they don't call him intolerant. But, somehow we're supposed to put our arms around everybody in America and say, "Your religion is just as good as mine." And, if we don't do it, we are called intolerant, bigots, anti-Americans, know-it-alls, and all of the rest of it.

Now, what Paul is saying here in verse 4 is that you, as a Christian, need to learn to be intolerant of certain things. Look again, if you will, in verse 4: he says, "*For if he that cometh*"—some hotshot preacher comes to town. Now listen—"*if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted*"—now, here's the phrase I want you to see—"*ye might well bear with him.*" (2 Corinthians 11:4) Now, what does that mean? Paul is scolding them there. Paul is saying, "When these fellows come to town, do you know your problem? You let them do it. You bear with them. You welcome them in. You hear them." Now, I checked this in a number of translations this morning, early. One of them says, "You put up with it." Another translation said, "You are marvelously tolerant." And, what he is doing is he's scolding them; he's saying, "They come along with another Jesus. They come along with another spirit. They come along with another gospel, and you're just so broadminded. You just bear with it." No, my dear friend, you can't bear with it. Let them call you bigoted if they will. Let them call you narrow-minded if they will. Let them accuse you of being a Bible-thumping fundamentalist if they will. But, my dear friend, Satan is so subtle. There is but one Jesus. There is but one Holy Spirit. There is but one gospel.

Conclusion

Now, how are you going to keep your spiritual fire burning? How are you going to have this pure devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ? Well, three things, and I'll be finished. I want you to look right here in the Word of God.

A. **There Must Be a Devotion to the True Son of God**

First of all, there must be a devotion to the true Son of God—a devotion to the true Son of God. If there is another Jesus, there is the true Jesus. You are to love Him. Love Him. Love Him passionately. When I want to check your spiritual health, I'm not

necessarily going to see how often you've been in Sunday School, though that's good, or how much money you give. And, I don't check anybody in that way. I don't know what you give. I'm not going to check to see what you drink or don't drink, although there are certain things you ought not to drink. And, may I say, 'tis the season to be sober. But, my dear friend, if I want to check your spiritual health, I'm going to ask this one question: Do you love Jesus? I mean, do you love Jesus with a pure devotion? And remember, Jesus said, *"If a man [loves] me, he will keep my [word]."* (John 14:23) That's the test. The true test of being saved is a burning, blazing, passionate, emotional, pure love for the Son of God.

B. There Must Be Discernment by the Spirit of God

All right, number one: devotion to the Son of God. Number two: discernment by the Spirit of God. You see, not only is there the true Jesus; there's the true Spirit, and the true Spirit is there to help you to know the true Jesus. Now, verse 4 speaks of another spirit. There is a spirit in the world that the Bible calls the *"spirit of antichrist"* (1 John 4:3) that draws away your love from the Lord Jesus. How can you know whether the spirit that's in you is a demon spirit or the Holy Spirit? First John 4:1–2: *"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits"*—that means "test the spirits"—*"whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God."* (1 John 4:1–2) What is the ministry of the Holy Spirit? To make Jesus real to you. Jesus said in John 16:14: *"He shall glorify me."* (John 16:14) My dear friend, if the person in you, the Holy Spirit in you, is saying, "Jesus is wonderful. Love Jesus. Follow Jesus. Be committed to the Christ of the Bible," you can be certain that's the Holy Spirit—you can be certain that's the Holy Spirit. Remember, there is another Jesus and another spirit. There is the false Jesus and the false spirit. Believe not every Jesus. Believe the Jesus of the Bible. *"Believe not every spirit."* (1 John 4:1) Let it be the Spirit of the Bible. Test the spirits. *"Try the spirits."* (1 John 4:1)

C. There Must Be Dependence on the Word of God

Well, you say, "But, that's still all subjective. Don't we have something objective?" Yes, we do. Now remember, there are three things. First of all, there must be a devotion to the Son of God. Number two: discernment by the Spirit of God. And, number three: dependence on the Word of God. Now, in verse 4, Paul also spoke of another gospel. The gospel, of course, is the revealed Word of God. This is so very necessary that you have this book written by the Apostle Paul and other apostles and prophets of our Lord that you can test, that you can stand on.

There are actually five things I want you just to jot them down, and say, "When I'm making my New Year's resolution, and even before I get to New Years, here's what I'm

going to do.”

1. Master the Word of God

“By God’s grace, number one, I’m going to master the Word of God—I am going to master the Word of God.” That doesn’t mean “know it all.” None of us know it all. I have been preaching now for almost forty years, and I’m afraid somebody’s going to find out how little I know about this book. My dear friend, when I say, “Master the Word of God,” I mean what Paul told Timothy: *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that [needs] not to be ashamed.”* (2 Timothy 2:15) You ought to have a strategic grasp of the Word of God. Some people have no idea what’s in the Bible. Some who have been Christians for many years—you’ve never even read the Bible through. You don’t even know the books of the Bible. Some, if I were to say, “Turn to the book of Hezekiah” this morning, you’d start looking. Some would try to find Philip 66. I mean, if I just said, “Turn to this or that,” you would just begin to look. You don’t even know it’s there or it’s not there. My dear friend, listen, your bulwark against Satan is the Word of God. Listen, master the Word of God. *“Study to shew [yourself] approved unto God.”* (2 Timothy 2:15)

2. Memorize the Word of God

Number two: Memorize the Word of God—memorize the Word of God. Psalms 119:11: *“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.”* (Psalms 119:11)

3. Meditate on the Word of God

Number three: Meditate on the Word of God. Joshua 1:8: *“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”* (Joshua 1:8)

4. Mobilize the Word of God

All right, number four: Not only master the Word, memorize the Word, meditate on the Word, but mobilize the Word of God. What I mean by that is, this is a sword. It is your artillery; it is your battleax. Ephesians 6:17 says, *“Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”* (Ephesians 6:17) We’re in a war. Mobilize the Word of God. Jesus used the Bible to run Satan through when his temptation came. And, Satan said to Jesus, “Do this, and do this, and do this,” and Jesus said, “It is written... It is written... It is written...” Three times, with that sword of the Word, Jesus ran Satan through. He mobilized the Word of God.

5. Minister the Word of God

Last of all, minister the Word of God. Oh, I’m telling you, my dear friend, there are people all around us that are so hungry this Christmas season. Their minds are so

messed up. And, Satan is so subtle. *“We have a...more sure word of prophecy.”* (2 Peter 1:19) We have the Word of God.

Now, let me tell you how Satan is going down: devotion to the Son of God, discernment by the Spirit of God, and dependence on the Word of God. Have you got that? Just take the things that Satan is trying to do in verse 4 and just turn them around. When Satan brings another Jesus, you just say, “I’m going to love the true Jesus.” When Satan brings another spirit, you just say, “I’m going to depend on the Holy Spirit.” When Stan brings another gospel, you take the true gospel.

How do you spot a counterfeit? How do you spot a counterfeit? Well, they tell me that people who handle a lot of money, bankers and others, they don’t study counterfeits, primarily; what they study is the real thing so they can spot a counterfeit any time. Dear friend, fall in love with the Lord Jesus Christ. There is a battle for your mind. Satan’s singular aim is to draw away your devotion to Jesus. His subtle device—the same thing he did with Eve. His sure defeat—the Son of God, the Spirit of God, the Word of God.