

In the Battle *Lorne Sanny*

I. Introduction.

A. We all need time to reflect on exactly what is going on in this world.

B. There is great depravity and suffering all throughout the earth—why is this happening?

1. God created the heavens and the earth and innumerable beings to inhabit it. (Isaiah 42:45, 45:18)

2. There are angels for many different things, Satan being one of the most powerful. (Psalm 145:5-3, Colossians, Matthew 18:12, Acts 12:15, Daniel 10:13, 20, Revelation 12:7)

3. Satan rebelled and the earth became his dominion. (Isaiah 14, Luke 4)

4. Our world is one tale after another of heartache and misery because of this. We are living in an enemy occupied world.

C. Jesus came to deliver us from the works of the Devil. (Colossians 1:13)

1. He came to win us to himself.

2. After this He intended to shape us into His image, make us trophies of His grace and consummate all things in the Person of Jesus Christ.

3. Earth is important because of what happened here.

II. God is building his church today. (Matthew 16)

A. In some places this is dramatic.

1. There are small group Bible studies springing up all over.

2. There are concentrated prayer meetings in several places.

B. The purpose of the church is to be on offensive against hell.

1. If the lost are not won, then the work is in vain.

2. Asking for God's kingdom to come is asking for Satan's to go. We want to see people transferred from Satan's rule to God's.

3. Too many Christians just “occupy real estate.”

C. We are all busy, but we fail to prioritize properly.

1. If a soldier is going to go into the battle, he must travel light.

2. The soldier needs to also be yielded. The day of the missionary will never be over.

3. God wants to use people who are alert to the battle.

4. The requirements of discipleship are stiff because God wants people who He can count on.

5. Activity is no substitute for results.

6. It is too easy to get involved in what is not primary—building up men and winning the lost. (Psalm 18:34)

Application questions

1. Why is it that the Christian objective ought to be seen in terms of a battle?

2. What is the right response of a “soldier” for Christ to the battle?

3. Rate your involvement in the battle on a scale of one to ten. What is one thing you can do this week to contribute to winning the lost and building up the church?
