

Beware of Satan's Nose and Foot!

The ancient Arabs had a saying: "Beware the camel's nose" which means that if we let one small undesirable situation occur, then there would soon be a worsening to a disastrous predicament. The context is that if you let a camel get his nose into the tent, the whole body would soon follow. In America, we have a similar saying in that we let someone get "a foot in the door."

In addition to many applications, these proverbs can well warn us of the danger of letting Satan into our lives. Like the bulky, smelly camel or the persistent, annoying salesman, Satan can work himself into our lives, and if we give him the opportunity, he will lead us down a slippery slope. Consider these examples from Scripture.

- **Eve (Gen. 3:1-6)** – Eve allowed herself to doubt the word of God. From there the downhill slide was very rapid. For then she looked at the forbidden fruit, took it, ate it, and finally gave it to her husband. She allowed just the tip of the nose of doubt into her mind, and before she knew it, Satan had ruined her whole life.

- **Achan (Josh. 7:1-26)** – The people of Israel were forbidden to take any spoils of war. But Achan was tempted. In his confession he states that he saw, coveted, took, and finally hid the treasures. Notice how Satan got his foot in the door and kept forcing his way deeper and deeper into Achan's greedy nature.

- **David (2 Sam. 11:1-27)** – King David looked at a woman bathing, lusted after her, had an affair with her, tried to hide the sin, then conspired to murder her husband. Note the slippery slope of sin and disaster that David fell into after taking a few seemingly small steps of following Satan's temptation.

Christian, let us ever be wary of Satan's temptations and realize that we can quickly be lead astray if we give him the opportunity. Satan is a greedy creature; if we give him an inch, he will take a mile.

"...do not give the devil an opportunity...so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes" (Eph 4:27; 2 Cor. 2:11 NASB).

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Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."

Sunday Worship:

Will Vann, Preacher

9:30 am Bible Study

863-899-0987

10:20 am Worship

Email: wvann@yahoo.com

12:30 pm Afternoon

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

Wednesday Night

7:pm

Pass or Fail

“Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him” (James 1:12).

We see in this verse somewhat of a microcosm of the Christian life. Endure trials and hardships without succumbing to the enticements of sin and when you have passed this test, you will receive eternal life. The late Thomas Warren laid out in his book, *Sin Suffering And God*, the reason for the hardships of this life and in doing so showed this world for what it is, a proving ground. “The world was designed to be a ‘vale of soul-making’ for man, and that it was created in view of man’s fall (into sin) which God (in His omniscience) knew would occur... and planned for man’s life on earth to be a probationary period which ends at the moment of his physical death...Man would need an environment in which to develop moral and spiritual character (and so come back to God, away from whom he had gone in his flaunt sin)...God knew how to create a world which would provide for man an environment which was as good as any possible for the purpose of enabling man to be truly free and to have an environment in which he could best develop morally and spiritually.”

Considering this, look at what God has done for us in regard to what He expects of us. In it we can see the test, the probationary period that Warren speaks of. God’s part, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son” (Jn. 3:16). Man’s part, “‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?’ Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment” (Mat. 22:36-38). We have been given free will (Josh. 24:15), to make this decision. The test ultimately is whether we will choose God or ourselves (2 Tim. 4:10), and this test is pass or fail.

Will Vann

Those to Serve

(B) Calvin Burks FV) Mike Mallett

(O) Doug Pruett (A) Kyle Stifflemire

1st prayer Keith Stifflemire 2nd prayer Vernon Houts

Announcements: Jack Wall Singing: Judd Wall

Prayer List: Naomi Wall , Mildred Lovell , Gene Payne, Lloyd Crownover, Ruby Jones, Pray for our nation, our Troops and Law Enforcement

John 1:1-5 (KJV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.



To

Will & Autumn Vann

June 14th



To

Cassidy Stapp June 2nd

Loyd Crownover June 5th

Jeret Burks June 7th

Warren Miller 15th

Naomi Wall June 23rd

Dates to Remember

May 29th

Noon Fellowship Meal

May 30th

Memorial Day

June 5th

Mission Fund

June 14th

Flag Day