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THE FIERY DART QUENCHER
Dr. Edith R. Grimes

Today Satan is out in full force with his fiery darts. We need to know all we can about the shield of Faith and how to use it.

Notice that we are to "take" the shield of Faith. It requires immediate action. When the soldiers are resting in the barracks and the alarm sounds, they must immediately grab their shield, sword and helmet and rush out to battle.

The Roman shield was very large. It was like a door in that it was four feet high and two and a half feet wide. It was made of wood with a metal fireproof lining to protect from the fiery darts.

The fiery darts were made of wood or metal with very sharp points. They would wrap the dart in material that was soaked in a flammable substance. They would set fire to it and hurle it as far as they could. When it would strike something it would burst into flames.

What for? To render the enemy inactive and prepare the way for a mass attack. When they are thrown in quantity from all directions they cause great confusion. It is just like a preliminary barrage of guns to prepare the way for the infantry.

Who throws the darts? The wicked one, Satan. He works in many different ways. Satan controls and commands powers and agents. He works through principalities, powers, rulers of darkness and spiritual wickedness in high places.

It is a tremendous spiritual warfare between God and Satan. God is a personal triune being consisting of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Satan is a personal with evil demons who are personalities that tempt and seduce men.

Satan himself tempted Jesus in the wilderness. What was Satan wanting? He wanted Jesus to obey him so that Jesus would not live to go to the cross and destroy him. How did Jesus defeat Satan in the temptation? With the Word of God. It is the most successful weapon. Satan cannot stand it because it is God's Word and our Sword.

When do these fiery darts come our way? Sometimes when waking you have evil thoughts and think they originate in you but it is Satan who

puts them there. Remember the mind is a battleground. If he can make you think that you are hopeless and cause you to despair and be depressed then his fiery darts are doing their work.

Prayer time is when fiery darts often come to distract us. Ever felt his presence and the hair on the back of your neck stands up? That is one of Satan's messengers coming to scare you and make you fearful so you will quit praying and leave. Rebuke him in Jesus Name and command him to "Go".

Fiery darts sometimes come our way when we are reading our Bible. Satan will put doubts in our mind like he did with Eve. "Hath God said?" or "A loving God would not do that". Or he may cause you to fall asleep with a spirit of heaviness.

Satan sometimes concentrates on individuals, churches or countries. He will send in a barrage of fiery darts. What is his motive? To destroy the work of God.

Satan likes to work on imaginations. If he can build up a bad scene and make it look very real then convince you that it is so or that it's going to be that way, then his fiery dart has done it's work. He likes to fill us with fear. Fear of losing your position, your wife or husband, or family. He likes to tempt us with wrong desires, passion and lust.

Peter said "Beloved think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you" (1 Peter 4:12). Temptation and persecution are natural for the child of God. Paul said to Timothy "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (2 Tim.3:12).

How do we stop these fiery darts? Use the shield of faith. Be ready to stop them from all angles and directions. When they are caught by the shield you do not have to pull them out of the joints of your armour. Peter says "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour; whom resist steadfast in the faith" (1 Peter 5:8,9). Then John emphasizes it "This is the victory that overcomes the world; even our faith" (1 John 5:4).

Faith is the ability to quickly apply what we believe to repel everything the devil does or tempts us to do. It is not enough to

intellectually believe but we must make it practical. "Faith without works is dead".

The shield of Faith is the quick application of what we believe in answer to everything the devil hurls at us. How is it a shield? It never points to itself but points to the object to be caught and resisted. Cults produce people who have faith in faith. Some try to work up faith with no success.

Faith points to God and relies on Him. Abraham was not weak in faith but strong. He believed that what God had promised He would perform. It was faith that saved Abraham because he accounted God able to do what He had promised. He had faith in God's character.

Know the promises of God and hold them up by quoting them when the fiery darts come. God and His Word are unchangeable. Have faith in the power of God even when you feel weak, frail and afraid.

Abraham climbed the mountain and built the altar. He was tired and exhausted. He placed Isaac upon it in obedience to God. Can you see that fiery dart that Satan hit him with about that time? "See, the promises are not true, there will be no heir to carry on". What a dart! How did Abraham handle that one? With the shield of Faith. "Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead from which also he received him in a figure". (Heb. 11:19)

Abraham actually believed God's promises to the extent of believing that if he offered his only son as a sacrifice in obedience to God's command, then God could raise him from the dead to fulfill the promises He had made to him.

The Shield of Faith points you to the power and promises of God. As soon as you hide behind it the fiery darts are quenched or stopped. They cannot touch you and they come to nothing. Resist Satan as you stand steadfast in the faith and the eternal, everlasting, all powerful God will give you the victory.

Satan hurled his darts at Christ using all his reserves against Him. Christ was victorious as He used the Word of God against Satan. Now He intercedes for us and helps us fight our battles. "For we have not an High Priest who cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities but was tempted in all points like as we are yet without sin" (Heb. 4:15) Now we are "more than conquerors".

THE REVELATION
By Dr. Albert Grimes
PART FIVE

THE JUDGMENT ON PERGAMOS

In Rev.2:14 we read: "But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to cast a stumbling block before the Children of Israel to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit fornication!"

The Doctrine of Balaam is to be understood in this sense, that Balak the king of the Moabites hired Balaam, a false prophet, to put a curse upon Israel, which he was not able to do. Under the control of the Holy Spirit he blessed Israel instead.

Balaam taught Balak how to invite the Israelites to the pagan feasts of his god; and they committed whoredom with the daughters of Moab, and God slew twenty four thousand in a plague. (Num.22:5; 23:8; 31:15,16)

This was also taking place in the church in Pergamos. They had entered into the worldly practises of the pagans among whom they lived.

This again is related to the meaning of the name "Pergamos". It means "high tower or thoroughly married". They had married themselves to the world and its pagan worship.

Not only that but the Nicolaitans were now in the church and that false system had taken hold in the church, as Rev.2:15 states. "So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate".

What took place in this church related prophetically to an age in Church History when the Priestly system began to formulate itself in the church, relating to the middle ages.

Christ is strong in His judgment of this condition as in Rev.2:16. "Repent or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth".

THE PROMISE

In Rev.2:17 we read: "He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna".

They had been eating meat sacrificed to devils that had no strengthening qualities in it. This hidden manna relates to Christ Himself who would give them spiritual strength and eternal life.

"And I will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written which no man knoweth except he that receiveth it". The white stone was used in judgment in the courts, a white stone meant acquittal, as stated in Rom. 8:1. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit".

The New Name is mentioned in Isa.62:2 "And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness and all kings thy glory, and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name".

Then again in Rev. 3:12 "And I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the City of my God, the new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new Name".

Names identify us, and the meaning of names can be understood. Possibly in our glorified state we will all be renamed by God Himself, and the new name will no doubt relate to a personal identification for I will be the only one and God who will know of its meaning. In Rev.2:17 it relates this: "In the stone a new name written which no man knoweth except him that receiveth it".

THE MESSAGE TO THYATIRA

The Church in this age is married to the world. The Church is in Idolatry and is the reason why Christ speaks to it as He does in Rev.2:18 "And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write: These things saith the Son of God, who hath His eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are like fine brass;"

The way in which Christ introduces Himself to this Church reveals the fact that He is going to bring judgment upon them, because of the

condition existing in this church.

THE COMMENDATION

Rev. 2:19 "I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first".

THE JUDGMENT

Rev. 2:20 "Notwith standing I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed to idols!"

It is very evident that the name Christ gave to this woman teaches that this Jezebel was the counter part in the O.T. of Jezebel who Ahab the king of Israel married, who was the daughter of the King of the Zidonians, who worship Baal. She brought into Israel Baal worship and slew all the prophets of the Lord. (1 Kings 16:31,32) Jezebel represented a false system of worship as this woman, who bore her name, did in this church. She was teaching the same doctrine of Balaam as was taught in Pergamos.

Now an understanding of the name will help us in the understanding of the problem. "Thyatira" means "perpetual sacrifice" or "continual offering". This is the period of the Church History when the Church came completely under the Roman system that Jezebel represents. The name perpetual sacrifice or continual offering refers to the sacrifice of the Mass which is a continual offering or sacrifice of Christ.

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN NEWS

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Thom and Donna Lundeen are getting comfortably settled in Long Beach, Ca. Thom has a new job that he enjoys as a Manager Trainee in a Japanese Resteraunt. They also have a new place to live and a Church they feel at home in. Praise the Lord!

Mike and Kathy Dunn are enjoying God's blessings. Mike is now Manager of the Wholesale Dept. in the Western Christian Book Store. They have moved to a new house in Alameda, Ca. It has four bedrooms and they like it very much. They are also busy teaching and have a Bible Study on Wed. night. Mike teaches a Sunday School class of newly saved men. What an opportunity! Kathy teaches first to third Grades in S.S. She also teaches a Drama Class on Tuesday for Youth for Christ and Campus Life. They plan to go on a Bay Area Tour soon, preforming plays that center around the Gospel of Christ. Kathy requests prayer, not only for those who will see the plays, but for those High School Students who are involved in the preforming. What an opportunity to portrait the Gospel and Christ's Love!

Kathy requests prayer for Salvation for her Mother, Father and Sister who have recently moved to San Francisco.

Kate O'Donnell is working for the Lord in Ocean Beach, Ca. She is teaching a class of single Adults 25-32 years of age. They are being challenged to new standards of holiness and they study the issue of purity. She is enjoying watching them deepen their commitment to the Lord and grow in godliness.

Kate is teaching a Bible Study in her apartment in San Diego on "Gifts and Ministries". She requests prayer that they will move out in their Ministries and learn to use their Gifts to bring glory to God and strengthen the church.

On Wed. night Kate teaches a class of ten women and is also envolved in the Evangelistic Explosion Ministry in her church,. The door is opening for her to have a Counselling Ministry there and teach others how to counsel.

Kate plans to attend Bethel Theological Seminary in the Fall and is looking to the Lord to provide the way, possibly with scholarships, etc.

(over)

Sue Bailey is doing fine in LaJolla, Ca. Chris and Terry Parker have a baby. Nick and Dini Bailey are in Southern California preparing to go to the Jungle Training Camp with Wycliffe Translators in March. After that they will be going to Germany to work with Kurdish people on a Translation Project, that starts in June.

Celeste (Fontaine) Sellers and her husband are planning to move back to PA. Please remember them in Prayer.

Robbie Hopkinson now has a steady teaching class on "Gifts and Ministries" at the Quartz Hill Assembly of God Church. The people are hungry for more and getting turned on. What a blessing it was when we found we had a Ministry or Job to do for the Lord and the equipment - Gifts - to do it with. Remember Robbie in your prayers. He waited a long time for this door to open.

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