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Separation Series III

2 Cor. 2:11

April 20, 1976

~~XXXXX May 4, 1974~~

I'd like to call your attention this morning to 2 Cor. 2:11 "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us, for we are not ignorant of his devices." I believe it is important that we be not ignorant of Satan's devices. Satan's devices have been very effective at many times throughout Christian history and particularly in recent years. It was less than a century ago that there was a great missionary movement in this country with people in all the denominations holding great conventions to discuss plans to send missionaries to every part of the world. The great slogan was: The evangelization of the world in this generation. That was less than a century ago. Much was accomplished by that great movement, but today there are more heathen in the world than there were at that time. Today one third of the world and more is under strict athiestic control, and today modernism has spread through our country in which evangelical Christianity was so dominate ^{most} a century ago in such a way as in the eyes of many to reduce it to an outworn superstition.

I would like look with you to a few of Satan's devices to see the danger they have for us ourselves, to see the results they have had in the world, and to think a little of how we should deal with them.

As I think of Satan's devices, I think of one that needs often to be mentioned is his device of leading us into slothfulness. I used to think sometimes it was very very difficult for a ^{minister} ~~ministry~~ to carry on a work that was at the proper pace because it seems to me that most went to one of two extremes. They either saw the need and great opportunities so strongly that they worked themselves at a pace they could not keep up and died young. Or else they sat back and spoke extemporaneously without much preparation. At least in an established denomination with good steady income it is one of