"Then Cometh the Devil"

Luke 8:11-12

Introduction:

- A. "Then cometh the Devil" suggests the Devil is real.
 - 1. Does not come with red suit, horns and pitch folk.
 - 2. May come as an angel of light deceiving (2 Cor. 11:14)
 - 3. May come as a roaring lion persecuting (1 Pet. 5:8,9)
- B. "The cometh the Devil" with a deadly mission.
 - 1. Takes only thing that can produce and sustain faith and save the word (Rom. 10:17; Jas. 1:21)
 - 2. Takes it before it can produce faith and after it has produced faith (cf. Matt. 13:22)
- C. The Devil has many means of taking the word from us we will notice four.

Discussion:

I. Misidentification

- A. Of his ministers (2 Cor. 11:14-16; Matt. 7:15-20)
 - 1. Not members of a "Satanic cult," but in the pulpits of mainstream churches.
 - 2. Some of the sweetest, nicest, accommodating, and sincerest people.
 - 3. The test is not greatness of their personalities but the truth of their message.
- B. Of our priorities (Matt. 6:19-21, 33; Mark 4:19; Luke 9:57-62; John 6:27)

II. Misdirection

- A. Of our faith (1 Cor. 2:1-13)
 - 1. Faith in man's wisdom rather than revealed wisdom.
 - 2. Faith in the power of the speaker rather than power of the speech.
- B. Of our affections (Col. 3:1-2, 5-7)

III. Mismanagement

- A. Of the scriptures (2 Cor. 4:2; 2 Tim. 2:15; 2 Pet. 3:16).
 - 1. In an effort to justify oneself or pet theory.
 - 2. In an effort to change scripture fit circumstance rather than change circumstance.
- B. Of our troubles (Rom. 12:12; Phil. 4:6-8; Job 13:15)
 - 1. By blaming the Lord rather than trust him.
 - 2. By trying to handle them alone.

IV. Misevaluation

- A. Over evaluate ourselves (Rom. 12:3, 16; John 9:34; 1 Cor. 10:12; 2 Cor 4:5; Phil. 2:3)
 - 1. It is easy to feel our importance.
 - 2. It is easy to forget where our worth lies (John 15:5)
- B. Under evaluate the soul (Mark 8:36; Matt. 10:28; Luke 15:4-7)
 - 1. Satan want us to think it is not worth the effort to try to save.
 - 2. Satan want us to think it is not worth the risk to try to save.
 - 3. Satan want us to think it is not worth the sacrifice to try to save.

Conclusion:

- A. "Resist the devil and he will flee from you" (Jas. 4:7)
- B. Hell is prepared for the devil and his angels Heaven is prepared for us which will you choose?