

The Holy War



Week 10

Apprehension of some of the Diabolonians

to

Execution of the same

Goals

- To gain a greater understanding of the **spiritual warfare** in which we are engaged.
- To develop a greater awareness of the **methods employed by Satan**.
- To deepen our appreciation for the **grace of God** in saving sinners.
- To learn more about ourselves through empathizing with Mansoul (**Mansoul = me**)

Synopsis

Mansoul begins the process of apprehending, trying, and executing the Diabolonians who reside within the town.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NASB)

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh,

for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ

Additional Steps

- In addition to those listed in the last reading assignment, what additional steps does Emmanuel take to restore the town?
 - He has the people destroy the three strongholds previously established by the Diabolonians in Mansoul.



Defiance - Governor Spite-God - by the Eye-gate



Midnight hold - Governor Love-no-light - by the old castle



Sweet-sin hold - Governor Love-flesh - in the market place

These reflect attitudes that disable the ministry of the Word in the soul.

- He has the people try by jury some of the Diabolonians and their men.

Dealing with the Flesh

The following passages which command the aggressive dealing with our flesh:

Ephesians 4:22

That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

Colossians 3:5-9

- 5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:
- 6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:
- 7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.
- 8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.
- 9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

Town at Work

- Though Emmanuel commands and energizes the town for it's work, why does He not do the work Himself?
 - He uses the laborious process of obedience to:
 - Strengthen the townsmen
 - Test their sincerity
 - Deepen their sense of humility for sins once welcomed
 - Alert them to the necessity of truly being prepared for spiritual warfare
- What is the role of the "now valiant and now right noble" Lord Will-be-will?
 - Apprehending and imprisoning Diabolonians as charged by Emmanuel

Observations

- Comment on the amount of time involved in seeing the image of God restored in man?
 - It is not necessarily quick.
 - Believers progress at different rates of growth.
 - But all must go through the same transforming process of putting off what we once were and putting on Christ.

When grace begins to reign, we must mortify the flesh, with its affections and lusts. Jesus Christ came to destroy the works of the devil, and to pull down his strong holds. But, truly, this is a time of immense work and labor.

(The Holy War, Illustrated with notes by George Burder, Reiner edition, 230)

The Trials

Defendants (9)	Witnesses (5)	Jury (12)	Courtroom Officials (4)

Courtroom Officials: Those attitudes that carry out the proceedings and see that they are done right about the flesh and follow through with the execution of life" (Eph 4, Col 3, Rom 6)

The Trials

- Charge:
- Pleads:
- Witnesses:
- Examination:
- Application:

The Trials: Mr. Atheism

- **Charge:** Teaching that there is no God, and no God is to be heeded
- **Pleads:** Not guilty
- **Witnesses:** Mr. Know-all, Mr. Tell-true, and Mr. Hate-lies
- **Examination:**
 - He was a third generation Diabolonian
 - He frequented Villain's Lane, Blackmouth Lane in Blasphemer's Row, and Drunkard's Row in Mr. Impiety's house at Rascal-Lane's End
 - He could adapt himself to religion if company and circumstances warranted it
 - He denied the presence of angels or spirits (any supernatural beings)
 - He was the son, but not the only child, of Mr. Never-be-good
 - He denied the existence of sin, heaven, and eternal punishment
 - To him nothing was evil ("as good to go to a wahore-house as to go to hear a sermon")
- **Application:** Practical atheism can exist among believers.

"For if men live without prayer, and in opposition to His will, they live 'without God in the world,' and what is this but atheism?"

(The Holy War, Illustrated with notes by George Burder, Reiner edition, 233)

The Trials: Mr. Lustings

- **Charge:** Teaching and practicing that it is lawful and profitable to indulge in carnal desires and that self-denial is unnecessary
- **Pleads:** Not guilty. Thought it strange that he should be called into question.
- **Witnesses:** Mr. Know-all and Mr. Tell-true
- **Examination:**
 - He has a high view of his own greatness (quote p. 77)
 - Know-all: "He has . . . been a great man indeed, and greater in wickedness than by pedigree more than a thousandfold."
 - He was the son of Mr. Beastly and his maternal grandmother was Evil-concupiscence
 - He was born on Flesh Street
 - He had indulged repeatedly in many wicked practices openly in the town
 - He was a swearer, liar, sabbath breaker, fornicator, unclean person, and a very filthy man.
 - He ultimately condemned himself when he said the following:

"I was ever of the opinion that the happiest life a man could live on earth was to keep himself back from nothing that he desired in the world; nor have I been false at any time to this opinion of mine, but have lived in the love of my notions all my days. Nor was I ever so churlish [rude], having found such sweetness in them myself, as to keep the commendations of them from others."

The Trials: Mr. Lustings

- **Application:**

- It is ever the temptation for the believer to find his happiness in the carnal pleasures of this life instead of focusing on those of the life to come.
- A believer should know what it means to “hold himself back” from sinful pleasures
- Putting this fellow to death involves constantly growing in our capacity to enjoy the eternal over the temporal.

The Trials: Mr. Incredulity

- **Charge:**
 - Treasonous rebellion against Shaddai's captains
 - Defiance against Shaddai, His cause and forces
 - Encouraging others in the same
- **Pleads:** Defies the charge
- **Witnesses:** None needed; he condemned himself with his own words
- **Examination:**
 - He represents an unusually defiant spirit. Steeped in determined unbelief, his speech is shockingly brazen:

"I know not Shaddai; I loved my old prince; I thought it my duty to be true to my trust, and to do what I could to possess the minds of the men of Mansoul to do their utmost to resist strangers and foreigners, and with might to fight against them. Nor have I, nor shall I, change mine opinion for fear of trouble, though you at present are possessed of place and power."

The Trials: Mr. Incredulity

- **Application:**
 - The tendency to unbelief hangs on stubbornly, even in the life of a “believer.”
 - One may doubt his salvation, the grace of God, the power of God, the love of God, the Word of God, etc.
(Jim Berg – Principles to remember)
 - Unbelief is always defiance of God. Aren’t you glad that He is gracious?
 - **Mark 9:24** “Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief”

The Trials: Mr. Forget-Good

- **Charge:** Treasonous support of Diabolus and forgetful neglect of all that was good.
- **Pleads:** Acknowledges he is guilty
- **Witnesses:** Mr. Hate-lies, Mr. Know-all, Mr. Tell-true
- **Examination:**
 - He has an uncanny ability to excuse his spiritual forgetfulness – attributing the neglect to old age or fickleness of mind.
 - Thinking on good or the Scriptures is appalling to him
 - He frequented All-base Lane (near sign of Conscience seared with a hot iron), Flesh Lane, the house of Shameless in Nauseous Street; and the house of Reprobate next to Descent-into-the-Pit on Filth Lane.
 - He was a Diabolonian and the son of Mr. Love-Naught
- **Application:** Purposeful forgetfulness is equivalent to refusing to hear.

“Forgetfulness of good, pleads a weak head, but the witnesses prove an avowed hatred of every thing scriptural and religious; it is, therefore, the fault of the heart rather than of the head, for, who is he cannot remember what he loves?”
(The Holy War, Illustrated with notes by George Burder, Reiner edition, 238)

The Trials: Mr. Hard-Heart

- **Charge:** Instilling obstinacy and stubbornness into the town of Mansoul that prevented their repentance before Shaddai
- **Pleads:** Unable to comprehend the charge
- **Witnesses:** None needed; he condemned himself with his own words
- **Examination:**
 - He represents his name well – he never knew remorse or sorrow, and he has no cares for the good of any; he delights in wounding others

“I care for no man; nor can I be pierced with men’s griefs, their groans will not enter into my heart; whomsoever I mischief, whomsoever I wrong, to me it is music, when to others mourning.”
- **Application:**
 - Notice that his lack of sympathy with Shaddai prohibits his entering into sympathy in any way with needy men.
 - Even believers can be unaffected by the needs of others around them
 - Believers can “hold out” when convicted of sin by the preaching of the Word

The Trials: Mr. False-Peace

- **Charge:** Using a false peace to comfort Mansoul in her apostasy and rebellion against Shaddai by giving her a false sense of security.
- **Pleads:** Rejects the name used for him, and so feels he is unable to enter a plea.
- **Witnesses:** Search-truth, Vouch-truth, Mr. Know-All and Mr. Hate-lies
- **Examination:**
 - He denies the peace he offers is false and prefers to go by the name "Peace"
 - He believes his motives and love for quietness prove the charge false, and he offers illustrations of his prowess (see p. 80).
 - He is the son of Mr. Flatter and Mrs. Sooth-up.
 - He had been properly named and called False-peace as an infant, and he loved the name as long as he was in power in Mansoul
 - He prefers peace to truth
 - He frequents Folly-yard and the house of Mr. Simple next to the sign of the Self-deceiver
- **Application:**
 - "Know that peace that is not a companion of truth and holiness, but that which is without this foundation, is grounded upon a lie, and is both deceitful and damnable, as also the great Shaddai hath said." (Rom 15:4)

The Trials: Mr. No-Truth

- **Charge:** Defacing and destroying all vestiges of Shaddai's laws
- **Pleads:** Not guilty (he lied)
- **Witnesses:** Mr. Know-all and Mr. Hate-lies
- **Examination:**
 - He led in the pulling down of the image of Shaddai.
 - He helped erect the image of Diabolus in its place.
 - He publicly destroyed as much of Shaddai's laws as he could.
- **Application:**
 - The Christians attitude toward truth should be different than it was before.
 - He should love and pursue truth where once the truth was, at best, a commodity to be dispensed with if expedient, and at worst, that which was hated for its implications and demands.

The Trials: Mr. Pitiless

- **Charge:** Turning Mansoul away from all thoughts of repentance
- **Pleads:** Not guilty. He too argued the accuracy of his name, asserting that his name was "Cheer-up"
- **Witnesses:** Mr. Know-all and Mr. Tell-true
- **Examination:**
 - He loves to counterfeit his name
 - Argued that his role was to "cheer up" the townsmen and prevent melancholy
 - "Cheered up" any townsmen that had thoughts of damnation or punishment
- **Application:**
 - **Prov 4:26** - Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established
 - **Psalm 4:4** - Tremble, and do not sin; Meditate in your heart upon your bed, and be still.
 - **I Samuel 30:6** - Moreover David was greatly distressed because the people spoke of stoning him, for all the people were embittered, each one because of his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.

The Trials: Mr. Haughty

- **Charge:** Teaching Mansouliaus:
 - To behave proudly in the face of the summons from Shaddai
 - To speak evil of Shaddai
 - To take up arms against Shaddai and Emmanuel
 - To do other acts of rebellion
- **Pleads:** Doesn't plead but commends his "bravery" and "valor" against all odds
- **Witnesses:** None needed as he made no answer
- **Examination:**
 - None
- **Application:**
 - Just like the humility that leads to true repentance in salvation, the believer must continue to receive the Word of God with humility.

The Jury's Deliberation

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The Escape

- Why do you think Bunyan introduced the incident of Incredulity's (the worst one among them) escape?
 - Quote p. 85
 - To warn us that a Christian will never be completely free of unbelief until he is at home in glory and faith becomes sight.
 - **Mark 9:24** "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief"
- **Incredulity's encounter with Diabolus**
 - While lamenting the gains of Emmanuel in Mansoul, they begin to conceive a plan by which they could regain control of the town.

The Execution

- Though the sins/attitudes are condemned to die, they do not go quietly or easily, and help is needed.
 - Quote p. 86
- Who is represented by the secretary?
 - The Holy Spirit

“The greatest proof of our sincere attachment to Christ, is the destruction of our sins; not suffering them to reign in our mortal bodies, but crucifying the flesh with its affections and lusts. But indeed our sins struggle much, and die hard, and our own native strength is insufficient for their mortification; the Spirit therefore is introduced as helping in this work”; -- for, ‘if we, through the Spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body, we shall live,’ Romans 8:13”

(The Holy War, Illustrated with notes by George Burder, Reiner edition, 255)

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