

Enemies of Evangelism

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I. Introduction.

A. Satan came to test Jesus in His basic objectives. (Matthew 4, John 17, Revelation 5)

1. If Jesus had taken a shortcut, we would forever be doomed.

2. A shortcut is sin.

3. Jesus stood firm against the Devil and quoted. (Colossians 2)

B. The only unanswered question is whether we are going to be a part of God's second great work—the sharing of the gospel. Satan is now trying to prevent us from doing this.

C. Text: I Corinthians 1:17.

II. The enemy of human wisdom.

A. God has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise.

B. We cannot let wisdom prevent us from sharing the gospel. The one who does not know Jesus is a fool.

III. The enemy of words.

A. Faith should not be grounded in eloquence.

B. Faith needs to be in the power of God so that when good speakers are gone faith will still be there. (Ephesians 4:14, I Timothy 4:1-3, II Timothy 2:14)

C. Fancy theological terms are often evidence of moral cowardice or intellectual dishonesty. (I John 2, I Corinthians 2:6-16, Acts 19:27, I Peter 2:15-17)

D. Power is in prayer. We pray for our family, the Great Commission, our career and ourselves.

E. Our gospel must be in both word and deed in order to be effective.

Application questions:

1. Which enemy do you find most prevalent in your life?

2. Is all human wisdom bad? Explain.

3. How does the flesh hinder us from sharing the gospel?
