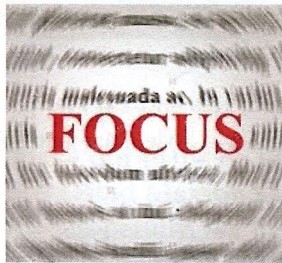




Keeping Our Focus

“For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.” (2 Corinthians 11:2-3)



Jesus many times used a figure of speech where he denied the lesser to emphasize the greater. For example, He said, “Do not labor for the meat that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life.” (John 6:27) In other words, working to satisfy our physical appetite should not be an excuse for not satisfying the soul. He was stressing that the soul is more important than our physical life.

What is the mission of Satan? His mission is to oppose God and thwart the faith of believers. How does he do this? Think about it. The real character and will of Satan is in complete opposition to all that God is. Thus, ever so subtly through deceit, he distracts us in our thinking, seeking to lead astray by trivializing the important and making the important trivial.

Balak took Balaam to three different places to view Israel and offered him great gain if he would pronounce a curses on them (Numbers 22:-24, see especially 22:40; 23:14; 23:27). One of the lessons we must learn from this account is that there is no view where it is ever right to do evil. There is no scriptural way to do a sinful thing and be right in doing it: anymore than there is an unscriptural way to do a right thing and be right in doing it.

Following God’s instructions from a heart that seeks to please Him in every way and in all things keeps our lives and relationships with each other focused on the truly important things that matter – eternal life. Let your light shine – focus on the important matters of the soul. *Bill*

