

Pastor Brian's  
Mid Week Message  
November 13, 2019

**THE DEVIL AT WORK**

There is a question that my amazing wife Kay likes to ask...one that she most certainly knows the answer to; "Where is the devil most active?" The response she's looking for is "In the Church!" Which is most certainly true as he has already (for the time being) got control of the secular world, so it's the Church that he and his minions are chiefly warring against. If he can't destroy us, which he can't (Matthew 16:18), he will do his "darnedest" to neutralize our effectiveness and witness. Nowhere was this more evident to us than yesterday in our 10 O'clock Tuesday Bible study. Let me set the stage for you. There were about 30 of us gathered in the church (Please realize that there is room for more) ready to dive into the latter part of chapter 2 in John's 1st Epistle; 1 John 2:15-29. This section of Scripture starts off with the warning not to love the world; and in doing so also the "Prince of this World", Satan, because it's a recipe for disaster. Well it appears that our old Satanic foe DID NOT want us to hear this truth. As we got underway we were interrupted by the collapse of one of our tables (I'm not going to tell you who set these tables up and did not ensure that the legs were latched in place...you can probably figure that out for yourself) spilling coffee and everything else on the floor. Once we got that cleaned up there came a myriad of cellphone ringtones from all around the room that attempted to derail our time in the Word of God. BUT, just as the Scripture reference above states (Matthew 16:18) the "gates of hell" were not about to overcome us, try as they may, in our desire to seek God and His Word and to make it our own and apply it to our lives. Empowered by the Holy Spirit we were overcomers and made Satan get behind us as we focused on the truth that we are the beloved children of God through receiving the gift of Jesus and His righteousness by faith. The devil has deceived many within the Church with the desire to make the world love us by denying the truth of the Scriptures; the entire infallible, inerrant and eternal revelation of God. Ours is to stand firm in "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help us God!" We don't add to or subtract from what our God has provided for us "for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17) Jesus Himself, the Son of God and Son of man, is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. In Him is life and that life is the light of all mankind (John 1:4) Apart from this truth everything the world has to offer; all it's trying to sell us, is darkness and death, the true realm of the devil.