

Points To Remember

DATE: Sunday, January 4, 2009

TITLE: "Wrestling the Rhino"

TEXT: James 1:14,15

SPEAKER: Pastor John Schley

INTRODUCTION

"If a rhinoceros were to enter this restaurant now, there is no denying he would have great power here. But I should be the first to rise and assure him that he had no authority whatever."

—G.K. Chesterton

"So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me."
—Romans 7:21

Four Truths about Sin

1. *Sin living in us is a "_____."*
2. *We find this law _____ us.*
3. *We find this law when we're at our _____.*
4. *This law never _____.*

Are You Wrestling the Rhino?

The more you discover the power of indwelling sin, the less you will suffer its effects. Because the better you know this rhino, the more you will hate it; and to the length that you hate it—and no farther—you will grasp for grace against it.

1. SIN'S STRATEGY

- The goal the flesh aims at is death
- The flesh works for your death by temptation

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James lists in these verses the five steps of temptation:

1. The _____ is dragged away from its duties by the deceit of sin.
2. The _____ are enticed and entangled.
3. The _____ gives its permission and actual sin is conceived.
4. _____ is birthed through our actions, words, thoughts, etc.
5. _____ comes as the result of sin- enslavement to sin is spiritual death.

2. YOUR DEFENSES: (and their duties before God)

The MIND is the sentinel/guard, commanded to watch carefully over the soul by questioning, evaluating, and making judgments:

The AFFECTIONS/EMOTIONS long for, and cling to what the mind said was good.

The WILL puts the soul into action

When each does its job, you obey God from the heart.

3. HOW DO WE HELP CONTROL OUR MIND?

1 Peter 1:13-16

Some Strategies Sin Uses to Defeat You:

- Overcome the _____
 - _____
- Abuse God's grace, make light of sin, focus on worldly things
- _____: *The LAZY Watchman*

You must be CROSS-eyed!

What shows God's hatred of sin more than the CROSS?

What shows God's love to you more than the CROSS?

The CROSS teaches us what sin deserves, how deep the depth of sin reaches, and how far God is willing to go to rescue us!

CONCLUSION

Are you wrestling the RHINO?

Hebrews 12:2