

SATAN HINDERED US

1 THESSALONIANS 2

Text: 1 Thessalonians 2:18

(1 Thessalonians 2:18) "Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us."

Introduction:

Paul had a real desire to go to the church at Thessalonica.

Paul loved this church, and had many great things to say concerning it.

So it was not lack of desire that Paul did not go to this church. What was the reason behind it.

Satan hindered them.

1. SATAN'S PRACTICE

A. Hinder the personal character of Christians

1. Lot

2. Joseph with Potiphfer's wife

3. David with Bathsheba

4. Paul in prison

B. Hinder the work of God

1. Moses before Pharaoh

2. Joshua at Ai

3. Ananias & Sapphira

2. SATAN'S PROCEDURE

A. Hinder those coming to Christ

B. Hinder Christians when they are earnest in prayer. (Illustration: mind wonders)

C. Hinder Christians when working for Christ.

D. Hinder Christians in fellowship with Christ.

3. SAVED PERCEPTION

“How can I know when Satan hinders me?”

A. The Goal

His goal is to prevent us from glorifying God.

B. His Method

God employs good motives; Satan bad ones.

Illustration: (Singing on Sundays instead of Wednesday)

C. The Nature

Glorifies self instead of the Saviour.

1. Guard our actions

Illus. (Satan never brushes the feathers of his birds the wrong way. He flavors his bait to his fish.)

4. SUGGESTED PRINCIPLES

A. Go on: Hindrances or no hindrances.

B. Rejoice in the opportunity of making a greater gain than you would have had had the hinderer had remained quiet.

C. Remember what you lose if you do not resist him and overcome.

Illustration

Adam & Eve lost fellowship with God

David lost his family

Rehoboam lost his kingdom

Ananias lost his life

John Mark lost much opportunity

Demas lost his ministry

D. Remember the promise you have.

(James 4:7) "Submit yourselves therefore to God.
Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Close:

Don't allow Satan to hinder what God wants to do today.