



The Power of Vigilance

The Book of Acts

Midweek Sermon

Pastor Carl Toti

September 30, 2020

Acts 20:29-31 (ESV)

29 I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. 31 Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.

John 10:12-13 (ESV)

12 He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

Acts 20:30 (ESV)

“...speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.”

TWISTED THINGS

1. Discordant _____

Romans 16:17–18 (NKJV)

17 Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. 18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

What is strife? — Angry or bitter disagreement over fundamental issues; conflict.

Difference Between Discord and Strife —

Discord manifests itself in various ways — by looks, words, or actions.

Strife displays itself in words, or acts of violence.

James 3:16 (KJV)

“For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.”

Proverbs 6:16, 19 (NLT)

16 There are six things the Lord hates—no, seven things he detests: 19 a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord in a family.

Proverbs 15:1 (NIV)

A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

2. Vain _____

Colossians 2:8 (NKJV)

8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

Philosophy is a longing after heavenly wisdom.

— Plato (c. 428-348 b.c.)

A philosopher should remind himself, now and then, that he is a particle pontificating on infinity.

— Will Durant (1885-1981)

James 3:15 (NKJV)

15 This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic.

3. Demonic _____

1 Timothy 4:1 (NKJV)

1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

4. Idle _____

Titus 1:10-11 (NKJV)

For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, 11 whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain.

ANSWERS:

1. DIVIDERS

2. PHILOSOPHIES

3. DOCTRINES

4. TALK