Eyes Attuned To Spiritual Warfare – Part 1

Tony Mauck · Matthew 2:13–23

INTRODUCTION

- I want us to greatly marvel at the word and works of our God.
- I want to talk about insight into winning the spiritual fight.
- The goal of this study today is that we all might be strongly encouraged as we strive to serve the Lord.

1 The Incarnation Met With Hostile Opposition

Genesis 3:15; Revelation 12:1–5; 2 Timothy 2:8–9

- The incarnation, that is, Jesus becoming human flesh, Emmanuel, God with us, God taking human form, Emmanuel met with hostile opposition. And this should not surprise us.
- Matthew chapter 2 and Revelation chapter 12 go hand in hand.
- Jesus is going to accomplish the purpose for which he came, and the great red dragon, as powerful and ferocious as he is not going to be able to stop it.
- If we're going to win in this spiritual warfare, we've got to remember Jesus.
- People can attempt to burn the Bible. Destroy it. Make it unavailable to the masses. And yet it survives. God is more powerful than all the opposition.
- There is absolutely no reason for you to be a spiritual casualty in this war.

2 Misguided Attempts at Self-Preservation

Matthew 2:3; Matthew 16:25

- When Herod the king heard of it, he was troubled. And then this at the end of verse 3, and all Jerusalem with him.
- Perhaps he saw this new king as a rival or a threat to his rule and his family's rule over Judea.
- God can take the evil and murderous intentions of Herod and fulfill a type that he has already established in the Old Testament.
- He who wishes to save his life shall lose it. He who loses his life for my sake shall find it.
- We ought to be more concerned about soul preservation than life preservation.
- We better learn to get the preoccupation off of ourselves.

3 Expecting Discouragement and Resistance

1 Peter 4:12–13; James 4:7; 1 Timothy 6:10–14

- Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you.

- They immediately discover that it's not going to be a walk in the park.
- Do not fear their intimidation and do not be troubled. But sanctify, set apart Christ as Lord in your hearts.
- He wants to dissuade and discourage you from having confidence in God and his word.
- Resist him, and he will flee from you. What is it about the word resist that we don't understand?
- Flee these things. Pursue righteousness and godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith.

THE CHALLENGE

Are your eyes, your mind, your heart attuned to the spiritual warfare? Have you acknowledged that Jesus is indeed the King of kings and the Lord of Lords? And have you made that good confession among his people unto the salvation of your souls?

MY NOTES