

Big Idea: When you meet the enemy don't let his lies deceive you into compromising your obedience to God.

1) The enemy is real. (v. 1-2)

How aware are you of these three enemies who are gathered together to fight against you? Describe the recent battles you have fought with each.

- The world - John 17:14
- The flesh - 1 Peter 2:11
- The devil - 1 Peter 5:8

2) The enemy will do anything to win. (v. 3-5)

Read 2Cor. 11:3,14. How did the serpent deceive Eve? How did the Gibeonites deceive Joshua? How has the enemy deceived you? What strategy did he use?

3) The enemy is a liar. (v. 6-21)

Read John 8:44 and Ephesians 4:27.

Are you believing any of these five lies of the enemy?

- LIE: Disobedience is harmless.
TRUTH: Disobedience is devastating.
- LIE: The fight isn't worth the effort.
TRUTH: Every square inch of onward progress in the Christian life is a battle fought by faith.
- LIE: God's Word can't be trusted.
TRUTH: The only word that can be trusted is God's Word.
- LIE: Compromise is less costly than obedience.
TRUTH: Obedience to God is costly, but not as costly as compromise.
- LIE: Sin will fulfill all my unmet longings.
TRUTH: My longings will only be met through serving Christ.

4) The enemy is defeated through Christ! (v. 22-27)

Read the following scripture and describe how the enemy is defeated through your union with Christ. Are you winning the battle?

- The devil - Revelation 12:10–11
- The world - 1 John 5:4
- The flesh - Galatians 5:24–25

The Gibeonites actually never caused a problem for Israel. Why not? Because they were willing to live as servants rather than enemies. We were once the enemies of God deserving complete annihilation. God allowed the Gibeonites to live, but only because they were willing to lay down their weapons and become servants of God. In doing so, God turned them from enemies into servants.

Describe how God turned you from an enemy into a servant.