

Sermon outline:

**1 Timothy 4:1-16 Spiritual Warfare #7: The Spiritual Forces of Evil**

- Evil is all about o\_\_\_\_\_ to God. Evil will do anything to stop God, f\_\_\_\_\_ God, evil will do whatever it takes to take our f\_\_\_\_\_ off God. Evil has lots of different tactics to do this, but it's favorite tactic is d\_\_\_\_\_.
- The p\_\_\_\_\_ behind everything is really Satan and his spiritual forces of evil.

In our 1 Timothy passage, we get some clues as to how the spiritual forces of evil work. The first thing this passage shows us about how Satan uses his spiritual forces of evil is that:

**1. They D\_\_\_\_\_ 4:1-2, 7, 15-16**

- a. Deception is the #1 weapon that the forces of evil use against people. We know this because of the different n\_\_\_\_\_ for Satan. Satan is called the f\_\_\_\_\_ of l\_\_\_\_\_. 2 Corinthians 11:14 tells us that Satan masquerades as an a\_\_\_\_\_ of l\_\_\_\_\_. Evil is able to do some of the stuff it does because evil is very good at m\_\_\_\_\_ itself look like anything but evil.
- b. Paul says what we need to focus on is we need to make sure we k\_\_\_\_\_ the truth of God and we are t\_\_\_\_\_ the truth of God, and we're l\_\_\_\_\_ o\_\_\_\_\_ the truth. One way to defeat every lie and false doctrine that gets thrown at us, is to k\_\_\_\_\_ the truth and to l\_\_\_\_\_ out the truth.

**2. They D\_\_\_\_\_ 4:2**

- a. Deception is the h\_\_\_\_\_ and distortion is the w\_\_\_\_\_. The forces of evil use a r\_\_\_\_\_ or a s\_\_\_\_\_ to con people into following their lies, and the distortion is the lie itself.
- b. As people f\_\_\_\_\_ the deception and b\_\_\_\_\_ the deception, it's distorting the truth of Jesus.
- c. Our defense against the spiritual forces of evil is always knowing the t\_\_\_\_\_. You might not be able to change the mind of someone who's conscience is sealed off to reason, but you can p\_\_\_\_\_ yourself and you can even protect those who are still trying to decide what they b\_\_\_\_\_. It happens by k\_\_\_\_\_ the truth and l\_\_\_\_\_ out the truth.

**3. They D\_\_\_\_\_ 4:7**

- a. Don't get caught up trying to defeat every lie; instead, p\_\_\_\_\_ the truth and l\_\_\_\_\_ the truth because you k\_\_\_\_\_ the truth.

Distractions always take away from m\_\_\_\_\_. This is a reminder that our battle is not against flesh and blood. It is NOT against p\_\_\_\_\_. Our battle is against the s\_\_\_\_\_ f\_\_\_\_\_ of evil in the heavenly realms