

On a Saturday morning as I was eating breakfast at a local establishment, someone handed me the “funnies section” of the news paper and asked me to read the latest cartoon form “RED AND ROVER”. It’s a small three window cartoon that features a little boy and his dog and their adventures. This particular episode of this “funny” was Red and Rover found them watching TV. Apparently, they were watching a soap opera. The set up shows words coming out of the television that say, “I think my husband is onto us”, while the reply comes, “Darling what makes you say that?” Red makes the reply after those words, “NOW, I know why they’re called soap operas!” He further explains in the last window of the cartoon, “...The actors need to have their mouths and minds washed out after every episode.”

What has led to the moral decline in our society today? Is that the billion dollar question? Why do people use pornography? Is it the selfish gratification with zero commitment? Is it the loveless indulgence of lust? Is it an escape into some sort of fantasy that alters reality? Why do people use alcohol and drugs? Is it a way to cope with life when it gets overwhelming? Is it a way of escape and way to selfishly indulge and gratify my physical senses? What is the foundation of cursing and ungodly language? It’s formed when someone has a basic contempt for God and their fellow man. What about the reasons people use for promiscuous and adulterous behavior? Is it because they allow one to abandon themselves to the self centered, personal gratification of sexual desires? What has led people to allow money to be the god of their life? What has led people to allow pleasure to be their god?

WHY? The answer is not as hard to explain. It is a one word explanation and the answer is: EVIL. Friends, we have allowed evil to find its way into our lives through “funnies” in our local newspapers, our televisions, and the music we listen to and we for the most part have turned a blind eye to it. Yet, we are astounded when we hear a young person curse or a friend has been unfaithful in their marriage relationship. We are aghast when we find out our teenagers are sexually active and that someone we know has an addiction issue with drugs or alcohol. So I ask the question again, why? We have allowed evil to come in and the thing is; we all saw it coming. The fact is we all see it coming! Yet, are we content to sit and watch and point the finger and say our vacant words; AND DO NOTHING ABOUT IT? Or are we prepared to suit up in the full armor of God and fight the good fight? What’s it going to be Christians? Is it going to be a battle won by satan because of the ho-hum attitude of those who call themselves children of God. Are we going to stand idly by in our tents like King Saul as the Philistine giant taunts us? We will just sit and allow evil to take over the Lord’s Body? Will we feed our children to roaring lion seeking to devour them with evil? Or will be stand up, speak up, and live faithfully for God?

Only you can answer those questions. I in no way, form or fashion wish to be militant or militaristic. I only wish to battle satan on every front. I wish to do as God wills and guides my life. May we all live with the hope and desire to serve God each day.