Understanding the Enemy: Satan's Talk

1 Timothy 4:1-3

I. The Devil's Doctrine

A. The Reality of the Devil's Doctrine

1. Notice in this verse that it mentions seducing spirits and doctrines of devils.
2. This is set in contrast to the Spirit Who speaketh expressly or clearly.
3. One sign of a false teacher is "How clear is their doctrine?"
4. These seducing spirits are tempting men away from the clear teaching of Scripture and they are adding to the simple plan of salvation and the gospel.
   a. What is the essence of this doctrine?
      i. That holiness is achieved through works.
      ii. This is the doctrine he offers to the unsaved.
      iii. This is the doctrine that he offers to the saved as well.

B. The Reason for the Devil's Doctrine

1. Satan is ultimately targeting the throne of God.
2. He doesn't necessarily need you to worship him as long as God is not on the throne in your life.

C. The Result of the Devil's Doctrine

1. Condemning sinners
2. Corrupting Saints.

II. The Devil's Discussion

A. The devil's doctrine is very subtil.

B. When we look at Satan's talk, we can see a pattern.

1. There is the sowing of doubt.
2. He is a liar.
3. He attacks God's goodness.
4. He appeals to pride and attacks God's authority.
5. He invites you to put yourself on the throne of God.

C. The Devil teaches his doctrine to continue to attack the throne of God anywhere that he can, including in your heart.

III. The Devil's Defeat

A. In order to identify error, you have to know the truth.

B. You must keep God on the throne of your heart.

C. Satan's doctrine is defeated when sinners are converted, and saints are consecrated.