

# CHAPTER FIFTEEN

## *The War to End All Wars*

### PROVERBS 6:12-19

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When WWI erupted in Europe, a battle cry called for nations to become involved and for able-bodied men and women to join the fight. Why were they being called to consider risking their lives? This battle cry came forth because WWI had been labeled the war to end all wars. The problem then and now is that nothing could be further from the truth. The Bible tells us just the opposite because as long as there are people of flesh and blood living on the earth, there will be the reality of war.

#### Matthew 24:6-8

“And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.”

The reality of the times in which we live is that there will always be a threat of war with North Korea, Russia, Iran, or someone else. Why is that? Some people in this world will not sleep unless they are stirring up some kind of a battle that will need to be fought. It is that kind of person Solomon has chosen to warn his son about in this passage. Solomon had been blessed with a reign of peace, yet his reign did not begin peacefully. He was instructed by his father to beware of certain individuals in the kingdom who would do him harm. With the naming of each individual, David recommended that Solomon deal with that person swiftly and with finality, and Solomon did. He was told who the threats would be, he waited for them to reveal their true natures, then he dealt with them as his father had recommended. What was the result? Peace. Solomon had a great army, but they were a peace-time military. They trained for war. They drilled for discipline. They conducted themselves as professionals. However, they were blessed with years and years of peace. Hoping his son could continue those years

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of peace and prosperity, Solomon then chose to help his son to identify the kind of person who would try to destroy the kingdom and enslave the people. Why would anyone object to a time of peace? Why would anybody want to hurt or injure innocent people? The answer goes back to the beginning of war itself—the time when Lucifer rebelled in heaven. From that time to the present, each war in this world is really nothing more than a continuation of what began in heaven and will continue until that war is ended at the Great White Throne judgment. What we will be forced to deal with in our lives are those who are willing to fight against the people of God and God Himself. Who are these people? Why does God hate them so much? God’s primary love is people. The Lord chose to die, not for the billions of angels, not for the animals, not for His creation. He chose to die for mankind because we are the objects of His love. However, the Lord identified the kind of person He despises and hates because this kind of person is a threat and a danger to the people of God. This kind of person is called collateral damage. Satan hates God with all of his being. He wants nothing less than to somehow destroy God and take over His creation. If he cannot do that, then he will do the next best thing. If Satan cannot have God’s creation, then he will do everything in his power to destroy it including God’s people. We are potentially the collateral damage. However, in this war against God, the devil can only be in one place at a time. To help him carry out his battle plans, Satan has enlisted the fallen angels or demons as they are called. To further assist him in this battle against good and evil, he has also enlisted the assistance of people. Who are these people who have become so blinded by Satan that they have actually joined his side in this fight against God? How can we find them? How can we protect ourselves against them? What do they look like?

## They are ... CONSUMED.

### Proverbs 6:12-15

“A naughty person, a wicked man, **walketh** with a froward mouth. 13 He **winketh** with his eyes, he **speaketh** with his feet, he **teacheth** with his fingers; 14 Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord. 15 Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy.”

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This whole passage is dealing with but one topic—body language. Studies have been conducted that have broken down the importance of body language in our communication with one another. In 1972, Dr. Mehrabian conducted studies that came up with values attached to the primary means of communicating. According to these studies, seven percent of communication comes from words. Thirty percent comes from the tone of voice that is used when speaking. Fifty-five percent comes from a person's body language! We cannot be sure how real those percentages are, but what we find in God's description of this person God hates is a description of his body language. This wicked person has a mouth that will not stop! He is critical, demanding, and hurtful with his talk. These verses highlight the fact that he follows up his words with the winking of the eye pointing to the secrets he shares with his friends. He communicates with his feet by where he travels. He instructs his cohorts with his fingers which points to the smallest of details as he carries out his plans of how he can hurt people. This behavior is where the saying, "Actions speak louder than words," comes from! His words can be sweet and kind, but his body language tells a different, more sinister story of intent to do evil. Why is body language such an accurate indicator of what is really going on in a person's life? It reveals what that person is consumed with! When a person is sitting in a room and wanting to leave because he is uncomfortable, his feet will many times be pointed toward the door as if he cannot wait to leave! When a person is up to no good, God is informing us his speech cannot be trusted because he reveals the contents of his heart in other ways.

## They are ... PROUD.

### Proverbs 6:16-17a

"These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:  
17 A **proud look...**"

Just as a person's body language will reveal what is in his mind, there are other indicators that will reveal what is in his heart! One indicator is the look of arrogance or pride. It is one thing to be confident, but it is an entirely different matter when a person is arrogant. Confidence can come from preparation, which is good. Arrogance, however, comes from a person thinking he is better than

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other people. It is arrogance and pride God despises for it is spiritually bragging of what I did instead of what God did in me!

## They are ... DECEITFUL.

Proverbs 6:17b

“A proud look, a **lying tongue...**”

There are some people in this world who are not bound or obligated by the truth. For them, the only thing that matters is the result. Their motto is the end justifies the means. If they have to lie in order to get what they want, then they have no problem with saying what is needed. For God, that is a problem because one of His many names is Truth!

John 14:6

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the **truth**, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

One of the biggest problems found in Islam is a belief called *Al Taqiyya*. It is an allowance in the Koran for lying or deceiving a person if it benefits Islam. A muslim is allowed to deny Islam and Mohammed, if it is done to save his life and as long as he did not really mean it. A muslim is allowed to lie to an infidel or a non-muslim. For Islamic-believing people the truth means nothing as long as the religion is strengthened and benefited by whatever lie is spoken. For this evil person who is hated by God, he has adopted not the religion of Islam but the religion of Self, and he has become his own god who can make his own rules.

## They are ... BULLIES.

Proverbs 6:17c

“A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that **shed innocent blood...**”

We have all encountered at some point in our lives a person we would call or consider a bully. A bully is a person who is bigger or stronger or more powerful than those around him. What he does for fun and recreation is pick on someone with the intent of feeling powerful and making that other person miserable.

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Once he becomes fixated on someone, he will continue to do whatever is necessary to grind him into the dirt. What did that other person do to the bully? At this point, the situation becomes almost a tragedy. A bully does not need a good reason to pick on someone. He just wakes up itching for a fight, and he will not be satisfied until he not only finds a fight, but he wins! This wicked person being described by God takes great delight in hurting someone who cannot or will not fight back. For that reason, God describes the victim as innocent blood. Historically, the Jews have been the objects of the bullies of this world. Hitler might be the most famous murderer of Jews, but he was not the first or the last. They have been displaced, persecuted, and forced to roam the world looking for a place where they can live in peace because the devil will make sure there is never a shortage of bullies who love to flaunt their power and who live to hurt and intimidate.

## They are ... SCHEMERS.

Proverbs 6:18a

“An heart that deviseth **wicked imaginations...**”

This evil person who loves to bully people, cannot stand it when there are good people who can be hurt or wounded. While some have a hobby of gardening or others love to work on cars, this kind of person spends his time trying to find ways to make other people miserable. How can he cause a person to be tormented with his thoughts? How can he cause someone to worry? How can he cause someone to be so fearful that he is willing to spend money to defend or to protect himself? To this kind of person, each day is like a game of chess, but instead of using pieces in a game, he wants to manhandle flesh and blood. The more misery he can create, the more enjoyment he gets from his game.

## They are ... BUSY BODIES.

Proverbs 6:18

“An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in **running to mischief...**”

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It is common for those who love reading to come across a book that is so enjoyable to read they hate to even put it down. Every free moment they have, they pick it up to at least read a page or two. They even stay up past normal bedtime so they can read an extra chapter or two. That addiction perfectly describes the life of a busy body. Instead of reading a book, he is flipping through the pages of a person's life, hoping to find juicy tidbits of gossip. When he thinks he has found something, he goes to work, spreading the gossip as far and as fast as he can. The word *mischief* means distress, calamity, adversity, affliction. It basically points to the fact that there are some people who are like vultures, and they go through life looking for people with problems, so they can run to them and watch them suffer. As they suffer, they share their stories with others who are only too willing to listen. I heard a term recently where this kind of person was referred to as a keyboard warrior. His battlefield is Facebook. His enemy is anyone he does not like. His weapons are gossip, lies, and rumors. His protection is anonymity. He loves to hide behind private messaging or a small group of loyal friends. He can type whatever he wants, whenever he wants, and the meaner he gets, the more his friends will like it! Why do these people like to run others down and destroy their character? This behavior is what they live for and what they love.

## They are ... MANIPULATORS.

### Proverbs 6:19

“A **false witness** that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.”

On the surface, it looks as if the Lord is simply repeating Himself, for He has already mentioned the lying tongue. However, there is something even more sinister that is mentioned here as a false witness. When a person tells a lie, it is for his own personal benefit. When a person chooses to commit perjury and lie as an official sworn witness, he has done so because he has been approached by someone who is making an orchestrated attempt to further an agenda. When Jezebel zeroed in on Naboth with the intent of stealing his vineyard, she chose to do so using the legal system. She took him to court. Then she hired individuals who were willing to lie on her behalf. It was not anything personal as far as the false witnesses were concerned. They were willing to do so as a means of helping Jezebel get what she wanted. Because it was part of the legal system, it

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worked! Shame on those false witnesses for allowing themselves to be part of the process that ruined a good and honest man. Woe to Jezebel for hiring them to further her cause. That problem is what Solomon was trying to warn his son about. This person will always have an agenda or a plan he is trying to bring about.

## They are ... DESTROYERS.

### Proverbs 6:19

“A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that **soweth discord** among brethren.”

The last description of this dangerous person who is truly despised by the Lord is that his ultimate goal is to destroy his enemy. How can he do that? He does so by sowing discord or strife. Unity is a special thing to the Lord because it creates an internal force of strength.

### Ecclesiastes 4:12

“And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and **a threefold cord is not quickly broken.**”

This verse was written by Solomon at the end of his life, and he is stressing the fact that there is great strength available IF a person is willing to rely upon unity for his strength. A single strand of rope is good but only up to a point. If a person adds a second strand, it is much better. If he adds a third strand, that new rope is so strong it can hold practically anything! When God created the church, He took the individual strands of each of us and put them together into a church family. Then He allowed that new rope to be tested and tried. As long as we remain together, we are safe and strong. As long as we are united, we can handle anything the devil decides to throw at us. However, when we have become detached from the group, we are nothing more than a single strand of rope, and we are vulnerable. We might look like we can handle the trials the devil will throw at us. We might be okay for a while. However, God's desire and preference is for us to be woven together in unity because we are not as strong as we think. We need one another. For this reason, this person who is despised by God will do everything in his power to pull that unity apart.