

Daily Devotion For October 13, 2021

"Then Jesus told him, 'Go away, Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve only Him.' Then the Devil left Him, and immediately angels came and began to serve Him." Matthew 4:10-22

I wonder how many of you have been enjoying the National League Division Series playoffs between the SF Giants and the LA Dodgers. In sports, rivalries are huge. Growing up, there was no bigger rivalry than the Giants and the Dodgers. Often, rivalries produce ill will and bad feelings, but it has been great to see that amidst this great rivalry, Gabe Kapler and Dave Roberts are good friends. But once the first pitch is thrown out, the rivalry resumes.

Jesus faced rivals during His life, too. Many people opposed His ministry, but there was no greater rival than Satan himself. At the start of His ministry, Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit to be tempted by Satan. Jesus consistently and continually refuted Satan with scripture and finally told Him basically to take a hike because He was going to worship the Lord His God. Satan thought Jesus was going to be an easy victory, but his ways did not work on Him. Throughout Christ's time on earth, he kept trying, and he keeps trying today. He attacks people, ministries and churches to try to separate us from the victory we have in Christ. Since Satan is winless against Christ, his rivalry invades His follower's lives where he tries to take us away from our Father's love.

The Giants and Dodger rivalry will continue until the end of time. Likewise, we need to keep battling our rival, Satan, until God calls us Home. Remember, in baseball both teams will win games, but when we compete against Satan with Christ's power, we can win every time. Do not go into a battle against him without that power! If you do, you are guaranteed a loss. We can learn a lesson from the old American Express commercial. When we go to battle against Satan, don't leave home without Him (Jesus Christ).

Thought For Today: Do you realize that you have a rivalry with Satan? How can you allow Christ to battle against the rivals of evil that wage war against you?

Today's Prayer Focus: Thank God that he has already won the victory over Satan at the cross of Calvary. Ask for God's power and strength to find daily victory over Satan. Continue to use the prayer fuel as part of your daily devotion time. Deo Volente.