

The Holy War



Week 2

Diabolus enters the castle

to

Diabolus builds 3 strongholds

Goals

- To gain a greater understanding of the **spiritual warfare** in which we are engaged.
- To develop a greater awareness of the **methods employed by Satan**.
- To deepen our appreciation for the **grace of God** in saving sinners.
- To learn more about ourselves through empathizing with Mansoul (**Mansoul = me**)

Key Questions

- What primary Bible passages come to your mind as you read this assignment?
- To what degree does the story accurately depict Bible teaching?

Mansoul

“There is not its equal under the whole heaven.”

- Lies between two worlds
- Built and founded by Shaddai
 - For His own delight
 - The pinnacle of His creation
- Intended to have dominion over all
- Entered through one of 5 gates:
 - Ear, Eye, Mouth, Nose, Feel
- Was perpetually defendable
 - Had well-built walls
 - Had abundant provisions
 - Could not be penetrated except by consent
- Operated under the best law
- Had Shaddai’s constant attention



Character Sketches: Main Forces

- **Shaddai**
 - A Hebrew title frequently used of God the Father in the OT
 - Translated "Almighty"
 - Communicates His All-sufficiency
 - Comes from the Hebrew word for breast – nourishment
 - Rightful owner of Mansoul
- **Diabolus**
 - King of the Blacks (Dark world)
 - Great and mighty, but poor and beggarly prince
 - Greek and Latin name for the Devil
 - Signifies the Accuser or Slanderer
 - The head of the whole company of fallen spirits
- **Mansoulions**
 - Natives of Mansoul
 - Parts of the inner man
- **Diabolonians**
 - Intruders, often residing for extended time in Mansoul
 - Elements of the flesh that reside in every believer (even after salvation)

Character Sketches: War Council

- **Diabolus** – The Greek and Latin name for the Devil (Accuser or Slanderer).
- **Alecto** – Fierce being, one of the Furies (heathen gods),
- **Tisiphone** – Another Fury of the lake (sister of Alecto). Associated with torment and suffering.
- **Apollyon** – Destroyer
- **Beelzebub** – Lord of Flies / Filth
- **Lucifer** – The Morning Star
- **Ill-pause** – Orator in difficult speeches
- **Legion** – named of those demonizing the man in Mark 5:9

Character Sketches: Leaders of Mansoul

The leaders of the town represent the facets of the inner man most immediately involved in responding to sin:

- **Lord Will-be-will** – Emphasizes the role of the will in relenting or resisting
- **Lord-Mayor Mr. Understanding** – Involved in understanding of truth
- **Mr. Recorder** – Conscience (implies memory as well)
- **Captain Resistance**
 - Only man of war in the town
 - Resistance to sin
 - Shot dead during assault on ear-gate
- **Lord Innocent**
 - Innocence before sin entered
 - When they eat the fruit, he dies.

Synopsis (Last Week)

- **2 Introductory Poems**
 - "To the Reader" (summary)
 - "An Advertisement to the Reader" (defense of authorship)
- **In my travels... (Bunyan's conversion and call to preach)**
- **Description of town of Mansoul in the continent of Universe**
 - Built by Shaddai
 - Enjoyed great privileges
 - Pinnacle of His creation
 - 5 gates (Ear-gate, Eye-gate, Mouth-gate, Nose-gate, Feel-gate)
- **Prior assault of Diabolus**
 - Diabolonians interest in Mansoul
- **Council of war**
- **"Assault" at Ear-gate**
 - Death of Captain Resistance and Lord Innocency
 - **Opening of Ear-gate and Eye-gate**

Synopsis

Diabolus secures his place and pervades Mansoul with his influence

Diabolus "Remodels"



Lord Mayor (Understanding)

Assented to Diabolus, yet...

- What did Diabolus fear about him?
 - He was a "seeing man"
- What did Diabolus do about that?
 - He demoted him
 - He "darkened" him (Eph 4:17-19)
- How did he do this?
 - He built a high tower between the sun and the Mayor's palace
 - Confined him to his house
- What was the effect on Understanding?
 - He became a prisoner (limited influence)
 - He became an impediment (influence was negative)

Mr. Recorder (Conscience)

- **What was he like before the town was taken?**
 - Well-read in the laws of Shaddai
 - A man of courage and faithfulness (in speaking the truth)
 - “He had a tongue as bravely hung as he had a head filled with judgment”
- **Did he also assent to opening the gate to Diabolus?**
 - Yes
- **How did Diabolus feel about Mr. Recorder?**
 - He did not like him
 - He feared him more than any other in the town
- **Why did Diabolus feel this way?**
 - He could not completely “own” him (Rom 2:14-15)
 - He would sometimes speak against Diabolus, shaking the whole town with his lion-like voice
 - He represented the voice of Shaddai to the townspeople

Mr. Recorder (Conscience)

- What did Diabolus do about Mr. Recorder?
 - He debauched him (so that he was past feeling)
 - He convinced the townsmen that he was crazy
 - Due to his "fits"
 - Due to his inconsistency
 - He got him to discredit himself
 - By "unsaying" things he had said
 - He downplayed his importance
 - This is not the voice of Shaddai
 - He emphasized the townsmen's "freedom"
- Did Diabolus' strategy work?
 - The people began to slight, neglect, and despise his words.
 - They wanted to destroy or at least remove him.
 - But his house was as strong as a castle, so he was preserved.

“Conscience, in natural men, is very unequal and irregular in his opposition to sin; yet, by fits and starts he will cry out, and so frighten the sinner, that he wishes him ‘a thousand miles off,’ so as to give him no disturbance, nor prevent his enjoyment of that liberty to sin, which Satan boasts he has granted to Mansoul. Nevertheless the power of conscience cannot be utterly destroyed”

(The Holy War, illustrated with notes by George Burder, Reiner edition, 48).

Lord Willbewill (the will)

- **What was he like before the town was taken?**
 - He was a “high-born” freeholder
 - He had many privileges
- **Did he also assent to opening the gate to Diabolus?**
 - Yes, he was one of the first to consent
- **How did Diabolus feel about him?**
 - He liked him
 - He promoted him
 - Captain of the castle
 - Governor of the wall
 - Keeper of the gates
 - Second in command to Diabolus

Lord Willbewill (the will)

- **What was his weakness?**
 - He loved power
 - When given authority, he:
 - Swore off Shaddai
 - Swore fidelity to Diabolus
- **How did he act toward Mr. Recorder?**
 - He maligned him
- **How did he act toward Diabolus?**
 - He would roam the streets shouting the “glories” of Diabolus
- **How did he act toward Shaddai’s law?**
 - Made sure that not a fragment was seen anywhere in the town

Diabolus "Remodels"



Application

Do you thank God...

- For the power of the Gospel?
 - Romans 1:16
 - I Corinthians 6:9-11
- That someone brought you the Gospel?
- For your Conscience and Understanding?

The Holy War

