"Victory Over Evil Forces" | November 10, 2012 | Order Info


It all started this year a few days before Halloween. A quote credited to Anton LaVey was shared between several Facebook friends: "I'm glad that Christian parents let their children worship the devil at least one night out of the year."

Anton LaVey is the founder of the Church of Satan!

Christian friends then began a debate. Was allowing ones child to go tricker-treating worshiping the devil or not?

A couple of the young mothers said they would never let their children dress up for Halloween because they felt that anything related to Halloween was dabbling in the occult. One mother even posted the link to Amazon.com and a children’s book entitled *Mommy, Why Don’t We Celebrate Halloween?* The paperback book is one that the publisher claims “…will satisfy the curiosity of even the most inquisitive children.”

Other mothers, now grandmothers, told of the fantastic memories they have of going tricker-treating when they were a child. One such woman posted, “My parents would take us to safe neighborhoods where my siblings and I gathered candy that would last us an entire year. It was something we did as a family.”

Another friend asked, “If the children do not dress in dark-side costumes, such as a witch, ghost, or devil, does that differ from dressing up as an imaginary person on any other day of the year?”
One young woman, not yet a mother, suggested that the quote itself is deceptive. In her opinion we would be missing the point to think that the devil was going to influence children only one day out of a year. In her work with pre-school age children she sees that even in early childhood evil is prevalent. Satan frequents the lives of the young and old in devious ways every day. “We must decide whom we will allow to influence us and the children in our care moment-by-moment,” she concluded.

In our Bible lesson for this week there is no debate. The fact is that the forces of good and evil are at cross purposes in our lives every day. The good news is we can beat the devil at his game plan for our life. The Bible is full of examples that can give us hope of victory over evil forces. Christ’s death and the resurrection makes it possible for us to be assured that there is nothing over which a follower of Christ cannot be victorious.

Author E. G. White in her book *The Desire of Ages* notes that “Satan trembles and flees before the weakest soul who finds refuge in that mighty name.” (p.131)

Think about the last 48 hours of your life. Did the devil show up to taunt or tempt you in any way? Was he in costume? Share with your class what methods of making evil flee from your life worked best for you this week.

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1. Amazon

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