

Epic –Act 2

LOTR Fellowship – Ch 30 2:06:51

- I. The Villian
 - a. Why does every story have a villain...because yours does
 - b. Although most of you have never turned around and looked
 - c. And even if you have, you turn the other way once you think that you have defeated him and he snares you by the foot
 - d. How many truly live as though there is an enemy and his sole desire is to destroy you, always walking around as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour
 - e. He is cunning, he schemes against us always seeking to steal from us what God has given us, to take our very lives from us if he can, and to destroy all goodness in the world
 - f. Often he is subtle, never revealing himself till the last possible moment when he leaps upon you and grasp you in his jaws
 - g. Think about the enemies in most stories
 - i. They wait in hiding until the perfect time to strike
 - ii. Disguising themselves as something else
 1. an angel of light perhaps
 - iii. why do you think that the evil beings in most stories are depicted in similar fashion
 1. some sort of fire breathing winged creature of sorts
 - a. vampires, demons, dragons
 - b. *Job 41:12-34*
 - c. *Read Epic pg 30 – Angelic Power*
 - d. These depictions weren't made up one day...they were borrowed, from the One true Story
 - e. Lucifer is an angel...a fallen one
 - f. Listen to Daniel's encounter w an angel
 - g. *Epic pg 31-32*
 - h. *Epic pg 33*
- II. What happened to Lucifer?
 - a. Pride entered his heart
 - i. Beautiful creature w same free-will you have
 - b. He began to believe he was being cheated some how
 - i. *Epic pg 35*
 - ii. This is why most of struggle to commit, because we are all sons and daughters of Satan
 - iii. And we believe the same lie that he started...God is holding out on us
 - c. How convincing and deceitful must he be?

- i. He convinced a THIRD of God's angels to turn on God with Him
- ii. And a great battle ensued
- iii. Michael smote down Lucifer
 - 1. Epic pg 37
 - 2. demons were formed
- d. Evil entered the Story

III. Our Enemies

- i. they keep themselves hidden from us, doing their work in the shadows
 - 1. knowing that if their existence was ever revealed that suddenly they would become a target to be fought
 - 2. C.S. Lewis Screwtape Letter #7 pg 271
- ii. O yes, our enemies are real, more real than anything you can see with your eyes of flesh
- iii. Depression, fear, confusion, anxiety, pride, deceit, lust, addictions
 - 1. do these things define you?
 - 2. or do you recognize them for what they are...enemies at work against you
 - 3. enemies whose lies you have believed
 - 4. lies that have ensnared you
 - a. into bondage or into sin
 - 5. sin that you must be saved from and enemies that must be returned to the pits from whence they came
- iv. We live at a world at war...the battle...over your heart



Epic – Act 2 Questions

- 1) Have you lived as though there is an enemy that is at work against you?
- 2) What has your view of the enemy been...a creature in tights or a deceitful, cunning being who moves against you in the shadows?
- 3) Think back to the battles you have faced. Can you now identify the work of the enemy in them? What battles have you overcome?
- 4) What things have you brushed off as being, “O that’s just how it is,” or “That’s just me?”
- 5) The enemy tries to convince you that whatever you are battling against (the enemy at work against you) is actually who you are...”I am worthless,” “I am depressed,” “I have anxiety.” What enemies have you let define you? Have you been reluctant to speak to others about your battles out of fear of being “found out”?