

love each other. Love is not a matter of a feeling; love is a matter of desire for the other person's welfare; of an interest in helping them, an interest which in most cases they respond to. I know a man quite recently whose wife left him. A man who in a real service for the Lord, and she left him, and he has been able to show that the fault at present almost entirely ~~is~~ is on her side. Most of the people who know him sympathize with him, and desire that he continue his great service for the Lord.

But I happen to know that 10 years ago, this man was neglecting his wife. He was failing to take time with her. He was failing to show love for her. He was lording it over her in minor matters. But it all makes an impression and has an effect. If you carry out the vows that you have taken to love your wife and show it with time and effort the probabilities are very strong that she will respond even if at times she may seem not to.

This is one of the devices I think you should think about. I think most of you in seminary that are married, it is utterly unthinkable to you now that such a thing should ever happen in the future. But it would be strange if in a group of this size under present modern conditions there were not a few cases-- at least one or two-- where 20 years from now there would be very serious problems in this direction. Think of it now. It is a wile of Satan to lead you astray and to cut down your services to God and vow today that you will not let Satan get a hold in this regard at all.

Fourth, a wile or device of Satan that commonly occurs to us when we think of him-- and that is the persecution he may bring. In 1 Pet. 5:8 we read: Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil as a roaring lion goes about seeking whom he may devour.