

Avoiding the Enemy's Traps

Overview: If you know who you are in Christ Jesus and your spiritual weapons and, if you understand the enemy's strategies you will be assured victory in this life as a super-conqueror. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds (2 Cor 10:4).

A. Warfare Strategies of satan.

1. Deception

- The thief, satan, comes to kill, steal and destroy. John 10:10
- Wiles of the devil – trickery, lie in wait. Eph 6:11; Eph 4:14
- We are not ignorant of his devises – purpose, devise, scheme. 2 Cor 2:11
- satan transforms himself as an angel of light to deceive. 2 Cor 11:13-15

2. Blinding Minds.

- satan, the god of this world, blinds the minds. 2 Cor 4:4
- The serpent beguiled Eve – seduced wholly, deceived. 2 Cor 11:3
 - Through subtilty - trickery or sophistry: - (cunning) craftiness, subtilty.
 - Your minds corrupted – defile, destroy.

3. Capturing through sin.

- Devil put into Judas' heart to betray Jesus. John 13:2
- satan tempts you according to your weaknesses. 1 Cor 7:5
- satan walks around as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. 1 Pet 5:8
- Ensnared by the devil by sin. 2 Tim 2:25-26

B. Traps of the Enemy

1. Distractions – To Keep You:

- Out of the Word. Mark 4:14-20
- Out of Church. Heb 10:24-25
- Out of Prayer. Phil 4:6-7
- Out of Love. 1 John 4:11
- Out of Obedience. Phil 2:12-13
- From your Destiny. Eph 2:10

2. Deceptions – To Keep You:

- In Sin. James 1:12-15
- Captured by iniquity in your heart, soul and mind. 2 Tim 2:24-26
- Relying on the natural (sight). 2 Cor 5:7
- In Fear 2 Tim 1:7
- Speaking what you have. Rom 4:17; James 3:2-10
- Loving the world. 1 John 2:15; James 4:4
- In offence and unforgiveness. Matt 6:9-15

3. Complacency – To Keep You:

- Dull of Hearing. Heb 5:11-14
- Hidden from your true spiritual state. Rev 3:14-22
- Disobedient – hardened heart. Heb 3:7-8

4. Discouragement – To Keep You:

- In doubt and unbelief. Heb 3:12-13
- In laziness. Heb 11:6; John 8:31
- In depression. 2 Cor 4:6-7

C. Weapons of Our Warfare

1. Weapons of Offense:

- The Sword of the Spirit – Speaking the Word of God. Eph 6:16
- The Name of Jesus – used in prayer as a power of attorney. Phil 2:9
- The Blood of Jesus – used to speak to satanic beings. Heb 12:24
- Prayer of Affirmation – declaring the truth of God’s Word. Titus 3:8
- Prayer of Binding/Loosing – to loose God’s will, bind the enemy. Matt 18:18
- Casting Out – to rid our bodies and physical places of DDE’s. Mark 16:17
- Praise – praise stills the avenger and brings God on the scene. Psa 8:2; Psa 22:3

2. Weapons of Defense:

- The Shield of Faith – protects the minds from fiery darts. Eph 6:16
- Confessing sins – used to accept forgiveness. Follow up with RRB. 1 John 1:9
- The Blood of Jesus – used to cover yourself, loved ones and possessions. Heb 9:12-14
- Prayer of Affirmation – agree with God’s promises in salvation package. Heb 10:23
- Breaking Curses – used to remove from you the snares of your sins.
- Worship – Used to put oneself in alignment and in the Kingdom of God. John 9:31

3. Strategic Weapons:

- Studying the Bible. Rom 12:2
- Attending Church. Heb 10:24-25
- Take Communion frequently. 1 Cor 11:23-31
- Praying in tongues to build yourself up. 1 Cor 14:1-2; Jude 20
- Put on the full armor of God. Eph 6:10-18
- Prayer of Faith. Mark 11:24
- Prayer of Agreement. Matt 18:19
- Prayer of Authority. Mark 11:23; John 14:14
- Fasting (weekly recommended). Mark 9:29

D. Attitudes of Warfare

1. Know who Jesus is in you.

- You are a child of God and He is your father. Rom 8:15-17
- You have the power of God in you. Eph 1:19-20

2. Know who you are in Jesus.

- Seated with Christ in Heavenly places. Eph 2:6
- Authority in the Name of Jesus to govern with Him. Rom 5:17

3. Never give up attitude.

- Having done all to stand, stand therefore. Eph 6:13
- Ardent zeal and intense effort to seize the benefits of the kingdom. Matt 12:11