**Beware of the enemy**

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*And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

2 Cor 4:3-4 (NASB)

**1 Peter 5:8 (NASB)**
*Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.*

**1 John 5:19 (NASB)**
*We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.*

**The Enemies Tools**

1. **Deception.**

*Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming ;* ***9****that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,* ***10****and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.* 2 Thess 2:8-10 (NASB)

 *His mouth is full of curses and deceit and oppression; Under his tongue is mischief and wickedness.* Psalm 10:7 (NASB)

1. **Intimidation**.

 *Then a champion came out from the armies of the Philistines named Goliath, from Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. (9’) [5] And he had a bronze helmet on his head, and he was clothed with scale-armor which weighed five thousand shekels of bronze. (125lbs.)[6] He also had bronze greaves on his legs and a bronze javelin slung between his shoulders. [7] And the shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and the head of his spear weighed six hundred shekels of iron; (15lbs.) his shield-carrier also walked before him. [8] And he stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, and said to them, "Why do you come out to draw up in battle array? Am I not the Philistine and you servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves and let him come down to me. [9] "If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will become your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall become our servants and serve us." [10] Again the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day; give me a man that we may fight together." [11] When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.* 1 Samuel 17:4-11 (NASB)

1. **Ignorance.**

 *My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.* Hosea 4:6 (NASB)

1. **Confusion.** I don't understand) (being confounded)

 *And about that time there arose no small disturbance concerning the Way. [24] For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, was bringing no little business to the craftsmen; [25] these he gathered together with the workmen of similar trades, and said, "Men, you know that our prosperity depends upon this business. [26] "And you see and hear that not only in Ephesus, but in almost all of Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away a considerable number of people, saying that gods made with hands are no gods at all. [27] "And not only is there danger that this trade of ours fall into disrepute, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis be regarded as worthless and that she whom all of Asia and the world worship should even be dethroned from her magnificence." [28] And when they heard this and were filled with rage, they began crying out, saying, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" [29] And the city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed with one accord into the theater, dragging along Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul's traveling companions from Macedonia.*

Acts 19:23-29 (NASB)

*So then, some were shouting one thing and some another, for the assembly was in confusion and the majority did not know for what reason they had come together.*

Acts 19:32 (NASB95)

*for God is not a God of confusion but of peace , as in all the churches of the saints.*

1 Cor 14:33 (NASB95)

1. **Doubt.**

 *Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"*

Genesis 3:1 (NASB)

The serpent made Eve doubt what God had told her. he also makes us doubt our ability to do ministry. When I ask for volunteers you think who am I to do this or that, I don’t have the right skill or that’s not for me.

 *And when she recognized Peter's voice, because of her joy she did not open the gate, but ran in and announced that Peter was standing in front of the gate. [15] And they said to her, "You are out of your mind!" But she kept insisting that it was so. And they kept saying, "It is his angel."*

Acts 12:14-15 (NASB)

**How to Defend Yourself**

1. **Remember the greater power in you!**

*You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.* 1 John 4:4 (NASB)

*For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,* ***15****from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,* ***16****that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,* ***17****so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love,* ***18****may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,* ***19****and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.* Eph 3:14-19 (NASB)

*But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.*

Romans 8:37 (NASB)