

# 1 Corinthians 16:13

## ESV

- Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.
- Greek: gregoreuo
- Keep Watch, Be On The Alert, Strict Attention, Cautious, Active, Stay Awake, Vigilant
- Is in the imperative sense: authoritative command, of vital importance, crucial, essential, urgent
- No commandment appears more frequently for NT believers than watchfulness for Christ's coming



# Holy Spirit + Bible & Prayer

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- But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. John 14:26
- His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, **having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.** 2 Peter 1:3-4
- All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Tim 3:16-17
- Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20



# Training & Experience

Learn, Watch, Apply, Life Experience – Continue to learn through Success & Failure

- Law Enforcement
  - Interest, Apply, Hired, Sworn In, Academy, Field Training, On your own – senior officers & supervisors, become FTO \*red flag-respond in line with training
- Verbal Judo
  - Interest, Sign Up, Accepted, Training – Learn/Watch/Apply, on your own – learn through success failure, help train others \*red flag- “wanna bet?”
- Fitness
  - Interest, Equipment, Learn, Watch, Apply, On your own – learn through success/failure, help train others, \*red flag – don’t feel it where intended
- Disciples
  - Informed, Called, Discipled - Learned, Watched, Practical Exercises, Sent-share the Gospel -God/Holy Spirit/Brothers, make disciples, \*red flags – world, flesh, devil, temptation, sin
- Believer in Jesus Christ
  - Hear the Gospel, Decision to receive Jesus Christ, Bible/Prayer, Church, Discipleship, Life Experience – God/Holy Spirit/Discipled/Brothers, Disciple Others, \*red flags – world, flesh, devil, temptation, sin





# Learning To Think Like The Devil

Satan's Plan To Destroy Your Life

&

How To Defend Against It

There is a way that seems right to a man,  
But its end is the way of death.  
Prov 14:12



## James 1:15

...but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.



# 1 Peter 5:8-9

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- Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your family of believers all over the world is going through the same kind of suffering you are.



# Law Enforcement Career

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- UNIFORM ASSIGNMENTS

- Patrol - 911 calls, domestic violence, intoxicated driving, thefts, fights in progress, disorderly groups, child abuse, sex offenders, drug overdose, dead on arrival, death notifications, drunk/high in public, etc...
  - Street Crimes Unit - street gangs, firearms, drugs, prostitution
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# Law Enforcement Career

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- UNDERCOVER ASSIGNMENTS
  - Vice/Narcotics - drug trafficking, human trafficking, prostitution, firearms, stolen property, etc...
  - Central Virginia Drug Task Force
  - FBI Drug Task Force
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# Law Enforcement Career

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- UNDERCOVER ASSIGNMENTS
  - US Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force - high risk/violent, actively fleeing apprehension, “not going back to prison”
  - DEA Organized Crime & Drug Enforcement Task Force
  - FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force - National Security Cases
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# How Did They End Up Here?

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These people did not just wake up one day and decide to become a convicted felon, thief, abuser, rapists, child molester, drunk driver, drug addict, drug dealer, human trafficker, prostitute, etc



# The Path To Death

They weren't always this way.

- They were once an innocent child like me.
- Satan led them down a path of choices, compromises, sin.
- In the beginning they were likely seemingly small and insignificant
- With each step, it was so easy to take just one more step
- Desensitized, dopamine, and craving
- That led them, step by step, down the path to destruction.



# John 10:10

The thief comes only to STEAL and KILL and DESTROY. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.



# Satan's Goal?

- Steal, Kill, & Destroy
- By Any Means Necessary



# The World, The Flesh, and The Devil

The only 3 reasons why anyone commits a crime/sin

- Money - possessions - lust of the eyes
- Sex – lust - lust of the flesh
- Power – fame, notoriety, influence - pride of life
- All ultimately fall under PRIDE

“For all that is in the world - the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life - is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.” - 1 John 2:16-17



# Weapons: Alcohol, Drugs, Sex/Lust/Porn

- Lowered Inhibitions
  - Inhibitions: A feeling that makes one self-conscious and unable to act in a natural way; a restraint on the direct expression of an instinct
  - Alcohol/Drugs and violence, infidelity, fornication, gambling, theft, driving/fleeing from police..... Hamas fighters, DS, FL, library burglary, 18yo dui pursuit
- Loss of ability to make good decisions
- These vices become the created lust of your flesh - addiction/craving/stronghold
- You are now weakened and more vulnerable to additional sins
- There is also a natural occurrence of gradually becoming more and more desensitized and being required to engage in even more depraved behavior to yield the same excitement/pleasure/dopamine release
  - Lust, Pornography (levels), premarital sex, extramarital sex, abuse of women/rape, abuse of children/molestation, violent sex offender
  - Cigarettes, levels of alcohol consumption, levels of drugs
  - Cigarettes/tobacco, levels drugs
  - Gambling
  - Criminals with an addiction to crime – adrenaline/excitement





I have often had an individual, under arrest, in the back of my patrol car, telling me they would have never committed the crime had they not been under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Many admit they never imagined being what they had become.





In my profession I often see the end result of Satan's plan, the destroyed life.

# Self Examination:

I was not living the abundant victorious life as the Bible Describes



- Lacked boldness
- Crippling doubts
- Lacked assurance
- Felt weak & powerless
- Felt vulnerable to temptation
- I recognized I was human too, just like all of the criminals I was dealing with
- I recognized that I was capable of the same levels of depravity – even as a Christian
- What path am I on? What is Satan's next step goal? What's his end result goal?
- Am I prepared for attack? Or am I vulnerable

# King David

- As a teenager, possibly around 15 years old, David was anointed by the Prophet Samuel as the future King of Israel
- ...The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7b
- So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David...1 Samuel 16:13





# King David

- He had killed both and a bear
- But David said to Saul, “Your servant was tending his father’s sheep. When a lion or a bear came and took a sheep from the flock, I went out after it and attacked it, and rescued the sheep from its mouth; and when it rose up against me, I grabbed it by its mane and struck it and killed it. Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God. 1 Samuel 17:34-36

# King David

- Killed Goliath of the Philistines – 1 Samuel 17
- Philistines had gathered their armies for battle against the armies of Israel, who were under the leadership of King Saul
- In the Valley of Elah, 1025-1024 BC
- Goliath taunted Israel to send their best warrior into the valley to fight him...this went on for 40 days
- 9-11 feet tall
  - Shaquille O'Neal - 7'1
  - Andre the Giant – 7'4
  - Guinness Book of World Records – Robert Wadlow – 8'11
- Armed with a long-range weapon, the sling
- In ancient warfare slingers could deliver lethal strikes with remarkable accuracy from long range
- A National Geographic article suggests that an ancient slinger could hit a target with the equivalent striking power of a .44 caliber magnum bullet



# King David

- Knew God's hand was upon him and his life
- Had seen God work miracles in his life since he was a young man
- National hero, respected military commander, King of Israel, man after God's own heart
- **The Path: Overconfidence, pride, lack of vigilance, lust, adultery, murder, death of child (thought, sin, death)**
- If he would have seen the end of the path, would he have ever taken that first step?
- He didn't see the end of the path, but Satan certainly did
- Yes, healing and forgiveness, BUT
- Lifelong consequences....AND.....



These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death. James 1:15b NLT

WE ARE STILL TALKING ABOUT IT TODAY!!!



# Samson

- Manoah, Samson's mother, was childless and unable to give birth
- The angel of the Lord appeared to her and said, "You are barren and childless, but you are going to become pregnant and give birth to a son. Judges 13:3
- You will become pregnant and have a son whose head is never to be touched by a razor because the boy is to be a Nazirite, dedicated to God from the womb. He will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines. Judges 13:5
- The woman gave birth to a boy and named him Samson. He grew and the Lord blessed him, and the Spirit of the Lord began to stir him while he was in Mahaneh Dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol. Judges 13:24-25



# Samson

- The Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon him so that he tore the lion apart with his bare hands as he might have torn a young goat....Judges 14:6



## Samson

- As he approached Lehi, the Philistines came toward him shouting. The Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon him. The ropes on his arms became like charred flax, and the bindings dropped from his hands. Finding a fresh jawbone of a donkey, he grabbed it and struck down a thousand men. Judges 15:14-15



# Samson

- But Samson lay there only until the middle of the night. Then he got up and took hold of the doors of the city gate, together with the two posts, and tore them loose, bar and all. He lifted them to his shoulders and carried them to the top of the hill that faces Hebron. Judges 16:3
- Gaza Gate
  - Approximately 10 ft in height and 10 ft length
  - Approximately 1.65 ft – 3.30 ft thick (0.5-1.0 meter)
  - Made of wood, sometimes plated with bronze
  - Wood: 5,350 lbs – 10,700 lbs
  - Wood, with bar, and plated with bronze: 10,700 lbs to 21,400 lbs
  - Distance from Gaza to the vicinity of Hebron: 36 miles “as the crow flies”, NOT FLAT TERRAIN EITHER
  - Change in altitude over that distance: 3200 ft
    - Gaza: 100 ft above sea level
    - Hebron: 3300 ft above sea level
- Supernatural feat of strength, miracle of unparalleled proportions, possible only by God’s power!



# Samson

- One day Samson went to the Philistine town of Gaza and spent the night with a prostitute. Judges 16:1
- Have you ever noticed someone will summarize a decade of bad decisions?
- One sin in summary, but all sorts of steps that led to that bad place
- They'll summarize a season of bad decisions with one sentence, but it's rarely ever just one event
- It began with one bad decision, then one step taken, then one bad habit developed, one day at a time, that led to Samson's life falling apart
- Gaza is 25 miles from Samson's hometown Zora
- It's reasonable that Samson may have traveled that 25 miles by walking, which would be **56, 250 steps**, to go into enemy territory of the Philistines, where Samson is viewed as Public Enemy #1, all to go to a prostitute
- Samson didn't ruin his life all at one time
- Most people don't destroy their lives all at once, but rather one bad decision, followed by one wrong step, followed by one wrong habit, followed by one day at a time



# Samson



- Miraculously birth
- Life dedicated to God from birth to death
- The Spirit of the Lord “powerfully” upon him
- God’s miraculous power clearly displayed throughout his life
- **Overconfident, pride, lack of vigilance, lust, fornication, deceived, the Lord left him, captured, blinded, shamed, death**



WE ARE STILL TALKING ABOUT IT TODAY!!!

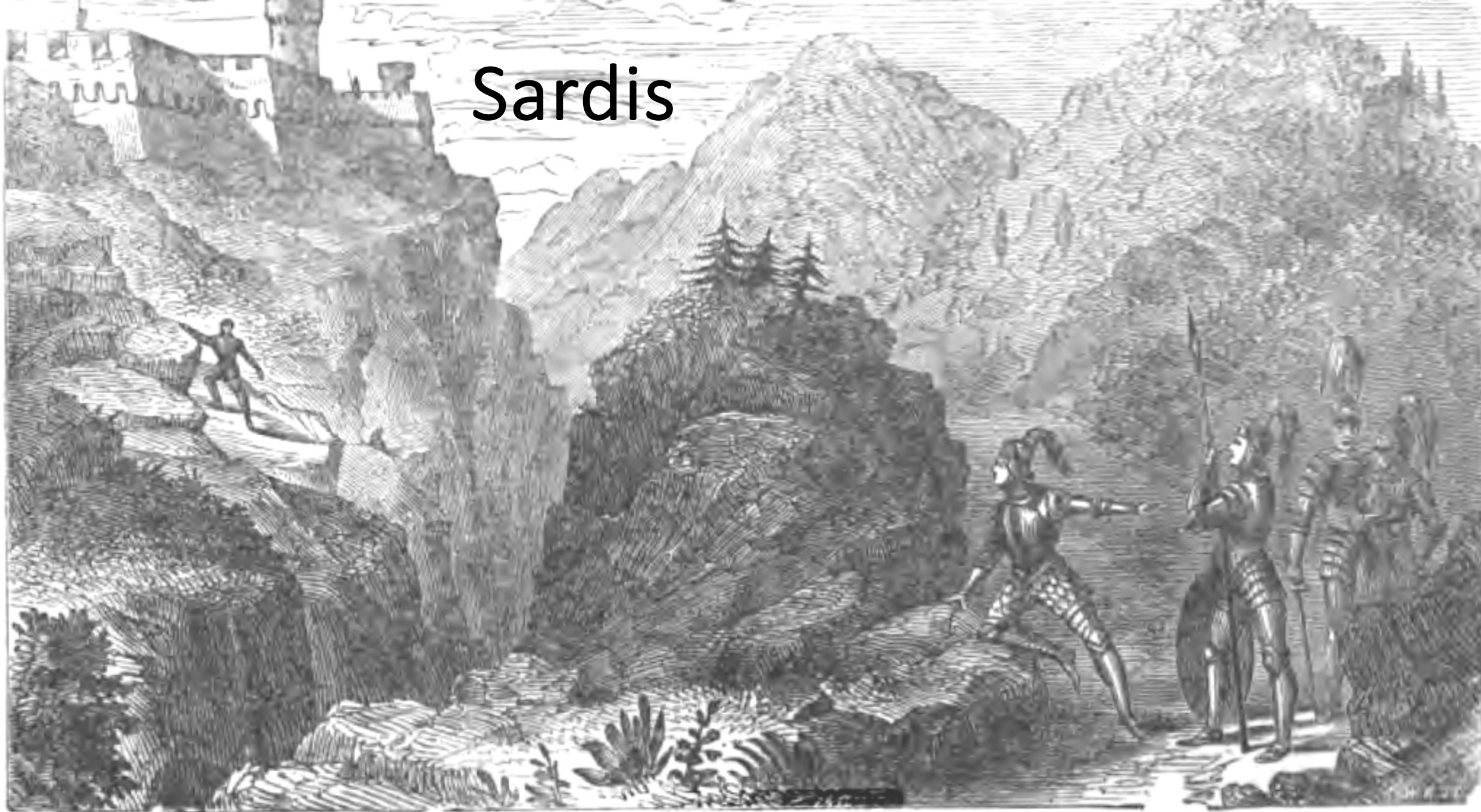


## Sardis: Overconfident Watchlessness Rev 3:1-6

- Built on a 1,000 foot high cliff (90%) overlooking a valley
- This provided an unscalable wall of protection in the natural rock formations
- Unable to be captured or broken into, fortified, **INVULNERABLE**
- Only way in was through the heavily fortified entrance gates
- Sardis was captured 2X before the letter from Jesus in Rev 3, AND ALL THE INHABITANTS KNEW WHY
- Cyrus the Persian (549BC)
- Antiochus the Greek (218BC)
- Able to take both times, almost without any fight at all....due to its negligence
- Each time Sardis fell, scaled precipice by night, and found the guards either sleeping or no guards at all!



# Sardis



THE SIEGE OF SARDIS.

# Spiritual Watchfulness

## BEWARE OF SPIRITUAL OVERCONFIDENCE

- Sleeping on duty was evidence of overconfidence for soldiers assigned to guarding the city
- Sleeping spiritually, by not guarding against the wiles of the devil, is evidence of overconfidence for believers
- A wise man fears and departs from evil, But a fool rages and is self confident. Prov 14:16
- The command to Sardis AND to us - “Be Watchful”, “You WATCH”
  - Greek: gregoreuo – wakeful, sleepless, watchful
  - Is in the imperative sense: authoritative command, of vital importance, crucial, essential, urgent
  - No commandment appears more frequently for NT believers than watchfulness for Christ’s coming

# Spiritual Watchfulness

## BEWARE OF SPIRITUAL OVERCONFIDENCE

- Watchfulness should be the constant attitude of the Christian life
  - This attitude is the key to HOW WE CAN DEFEAT THE DEVIL EVERY DAY
  - 1 Cor 16:13, Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong (ESV)
- Believers are to stay vigilant so that nothing keeps them from living for Christ's coming Matt 24:36-44
- Believers either watch out for the Devil's temptations, or get devoured by yielding to them.
- Temptation waits for our unguarded moments, then attacks
- Mark 14:38, Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.



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## Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness Matthew 4

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- Jesus was prepared for the attack
- He was not taken by surprise
- He knew his adversary
- He knew his tactics
- No hesitation in his response
- He did not have to think about the best scripture to use to defeat Satan's attack

# Joseph & Potiphar's Wife

## Genesis 39

- Joseph was prepared for the temptation
- He was not taken by surprise
- No hesitation in his response – both verbal and physical – he fled!
- He knew his adversary the devil was behind it – wicked/sin
- He knew the devil's tactics and was prepared
- No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. **How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?** Gen 39:9
  - He counted the cost, physically and spiritually, and knew it was not worth it
- And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her. Gen 39:10
  - He did not allow it to even be possible by refusing to even be in her presence
- One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. She caught him by the cloak and said, "Come to bed with me!" But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house. Gen 39:11-12
  - When she persisted to the point of physically grabbing him, and he found himself in a situation with no witnesses...he fled!
  - He did not try to reason with her, or think of a quieter way to handle the situation
  - A response must be pre-decided, the discipline of pre-deciding, like training for the mind



# My Adversary

## The Defense Attorney

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- I studied the questions they would ask
- What areas would they attack and why
- Assessed and learned from failures
- Read my report many times
  - I could immediately respond without delay
- Assess vulnerabilities in my case, anticipate where they would attack, and prepare my response
- Prepared for everything to the extent possible
- Walking out each shift with the defense attorney's tactics and strategies in mind
- Carrying out my duties as a police officer while thinking like a defense attorney
- This proved to be a plan that led to VICTORY



# Let's Think Like The Devil – His Goal For The Christian

Steal, Kill, & Destroy...by any means necessary

- Satan knows as a Christian I am eternally secure in Jesus Christ, I cannot be plucked from the Father's hand. John 10:28
- So his next immediate object is to get me to sin, which neutralizes me as a believer, rendering me powerless and ineffective...he'll be satisfied here if he must
  - I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without me you can do nothing. John 15:5
  - For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Eph 2:10
- His next immediate objective, at least keep you where you are at, but hopes to have you continue down the path until you publicly bring shame to the name of Christ
  - The life of the believer is the best evidence for, and against, the Gospel
  - It may be the same sin, or while weak and powerless from one area of sin, Satan attacks and you fall in another area of sin
- Next, at least keep you where you are at, but hopes to continue down the path of further strongholds/destruction and hopefully death (DUI crash, drug overdose, suicide)



## The Battle Is For Our Mind

The Mind is the connection between the physical and spiritual. Our mind, our spirit, is where we think and operate.

- Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:1-2
- The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Cor 10:4-5
- Paul repeatedly mentions the mind, 15 times alone in Philippians





# The Battle Is For Our Mind

Our mind must be protected or the devil can captivate it

- **In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Eph 6:16**
  - Only God can read thoughts, Satan cannot, Mark 2:8
  - As a believer, Satan cannot indwell you, BUT he can influence you!
  - Accuser of the brethren, father of lies, deceiver, subtle, tempter, crafty, powerful
  - Satan can “devour us” 1 Peter 5:8
  - Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith... 1 Peter 5:8-9a
    - Be sober (Greek:nepho) – don’t allow your minds to be under the influence of anything, remaining sober means guarding
    - Titus 2, all men and all women, are to be sober.
    - Be alert, vigilant, watchful, Greek: gregoreo: on guard, don’t give any place/foehold to the devil Eph 4:27



# The Battle Is For Our Mind

## How I respond to the flaming arrows of bad thoughts

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- Impure, fear, envy, jealousy, anger, etc..
- Impure thoughts...shame/depression can spiral out of control
  - How can I be a Christian and have a thought like this?
  - How can I share Jesus with others and be a person that has a thought like this?
  - What does this mean about who I truly am if I have a thoughts like this?
  - What kind of a horrible human being has a thought like this?
- "...but we have the mind of Christ. 1 Cor 2:16b





# The Battle Is For Our Mind

How should we respond to the flaming arrows of bad thoughts?

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- **Immediate Response**

- **Immediately recognize the thought as an attack from Satan**
- **Immediately claim and pray** 1 Cor 2:16, I have the mind of Christ
- **Immediately claim and pray** Gal 2:20, I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
- **Immediately claim and pray** 1 Tim 1:7, For God hath not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind (NIV - self discipline)
- **Immediately claim and pray** that the thought is not your thought, that is not who you are, you are a disciple of Jesus Christ

# Battle Plan

## Think Like The Devil – PART 1

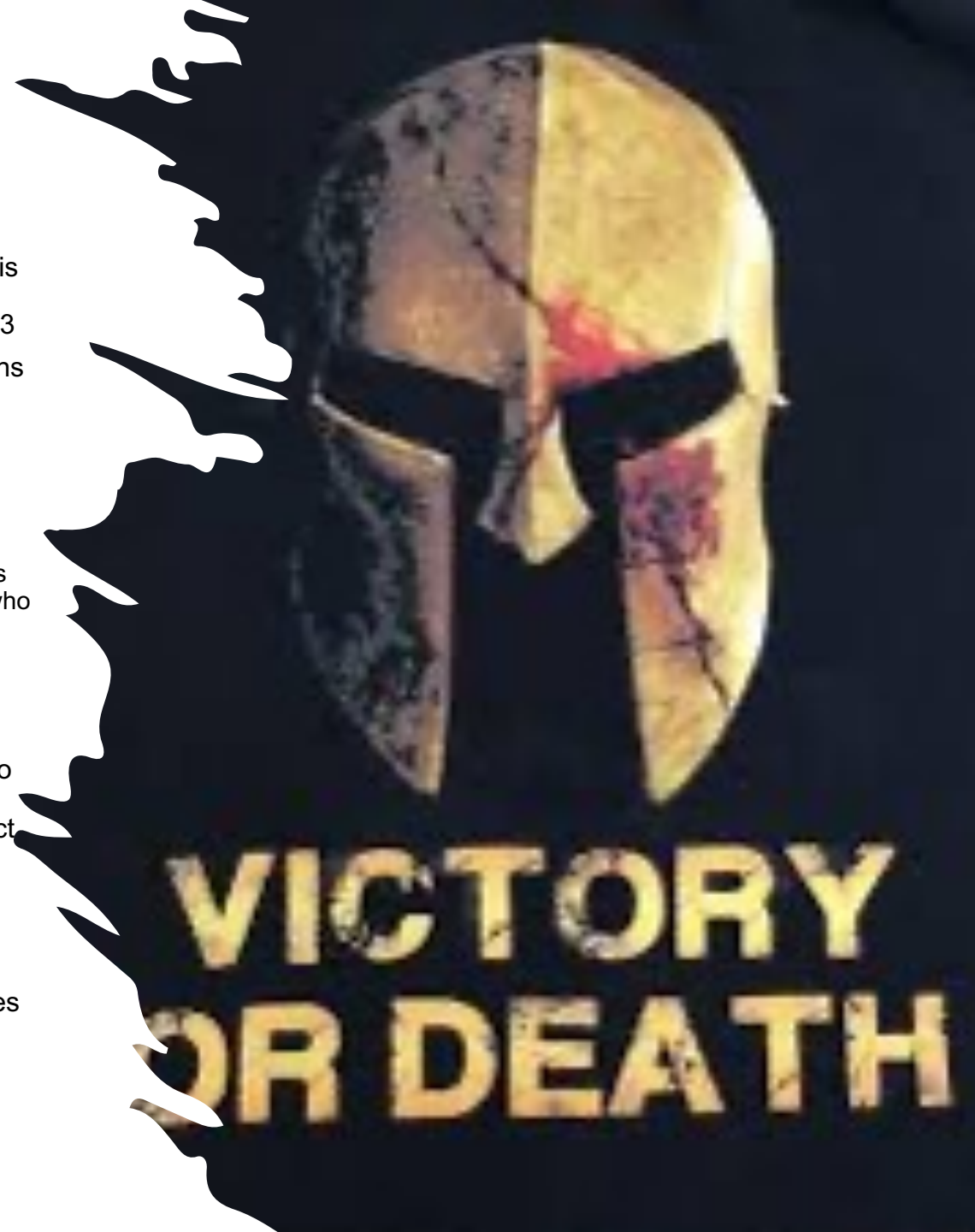
- Immediately Recognize: This temptation is an attack from the Devil
  - Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith...1 Peter 5:8-9a
  - The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy...John 10:10a
- Immediately Recognize: This is the FIRST STEP down a path that Satan wants to take me to lead to my destruction and death.
  - ...but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. James 1:15
  - There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death. Prov 14:12
- Immediately Recognize: At a minimum - Satan's Immediate Victory If I Fall
  - Do not quench the Spirit. 1 Thess 5:19 (quench: suppress, extinguish (fire), smother, (fire) put out (fire))
  - I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without me you can do nothing. John 15:5
  - For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Eph 2:10



# Battle Plan

## Think Like The Devil – PART 2

- Immediately Recognize: It is my CHOICE to sin
  - No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. 1 Cor 10:13
  - I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. Galatians 5:16
- Who am I?
  - If you love me, keep my commands. John 14:15
  - In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. 1 John 5:3-5
- Am I a hearer or doer?
  - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives FREEDOM, and continues in it - not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it - they will be blessed in what they do. James 1:22-25
- Am I a disciple of Jesus Christ?
  - Then he said to them all: Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. Luke 9:23



# Battle Plan

## Think Like The Devil – PART 3

- It's my choice, VICTORY or DEFEAT
  - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials (including TEMPTATIONS) of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. James 1:2-4
- Think back to the last time I gave in to temptation...
  - How did I feel IMMEDIATELY after the fall – shame, defeat, depression, far from God, hypocrite
  - Was it worth it? NO!
  - Immediately Recognize: If you CHOOSE to fall, this will be the GUARANTEED result, AGAIN, and AGAIN, and AGAIN
- What will I add to my grocery cart?
  - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 2 Cor 5:10



# Battle Plan

## Think Like The Devil – PART 4

- Some other key verses:
- Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Col 3:5-10
- What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Romans 6:1-2
- Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead. I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3: 12-14
- A wise man fears and departs from evil, But a fool rages and is self confident. Prov 14:16
- Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12:1-3



# Battle Plan

## Think Like The Devil – PART 5

- Some other key verses:
  - What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Romans 6:1-2
  - Therefore get rid of all the moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. James 1:21
  - Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Eph 6:13
  - I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Gal 2:20





# Battle Plan

## Think Like The Devil – PART 6

WARNING!!!

### Red Flag #1: Overconfidence / Pride

It will disarm you and vulnerable to Satan!

- You cannot be overconfident and vigilant at the same time
- Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. Proverbs 16:18

### Red Flag #2: Defeat / Depression

Don't wallow in it! No matter how many steps you take away from God, it's always only one step back!

- Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23
- "Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him. It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore, as it is written: "Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.'" 1 Cor 1:26-31



# The Bema Seat

- For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 2 Cor 5:10
- Olympic - medal ceremony models a practice begun by the ancient Greeks (8<sup>th</sup> century BC)
- A Judge sat at “the Bema Seat” at the finish line of a particular race
- That judge determined the winner and gave him an award immediately after the race
- In the Bible, The Bema Seat is the title given to the Judgement Seat of Christ
- God will regard believers based upon their actions done for him.
- Someone asked Martin Luther what kept him going such lifelong adversity and hardship. He said he lived by one simple truth.
- “I have two dates on my calendar. Today and the day I stand before the judgement seat of Christ. I live today getting ready to stand before the judgement seat of Christ.
- Only one life, twill soon be past, Only what’s done for Christ will last – CT Studd

