WAGING WAR – Aware of the Enemy December 9-10, 2023

1 Peter 5:8-9 (NKJV) – "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world".

Matthew 26:24 (NIV) – "The Son of Man will go just as it is written about Him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born".

"The greatest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing the world he did not exist" – *Roger "Verbal" Kint, The Usual Suspects*

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 (NIV) – "For such people are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve".

"He can never be content until he sees the believer utterly devoured. He would rend him in pieces, and break his bones and utterly destroy him if he could. Do not, therefore, indulge the thought that the main purpose of Satan is to make you miserable. He is pleased with that, but that is not his ultimate goal. Sometimes he may even make you happy, for he hath dainty poisons sweet to the taste which he administers to God's people. If he feels that our destruction can be more readily achieved by sweets than by bitters, he certainly would prefer that which would best effect his end" — *Charles Spurgeon*

1 Peter 5:6-7 (NKJV) – "Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you".

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Romans 12:3 (NIV) – "For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you".

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV) – "Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So, we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal".

Luke 22:24-27 (NIV) — A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves".

"'King of kings' is a title full of majesty, but 'servant of servants' is the name which our Lord preferred when He was here below" – *Charles Spurgeon*

Luke 22:31-34 (NIV) – "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers". But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death". Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me".

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"Scripture urges believers to flee from various evils, but nowhere are they advised to flee from the devil. That would be a futile effort" – *David Edmond Hiebert*

James 4:7 (NIV) – "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you".

John 1:1-5 (NIV) – "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it".