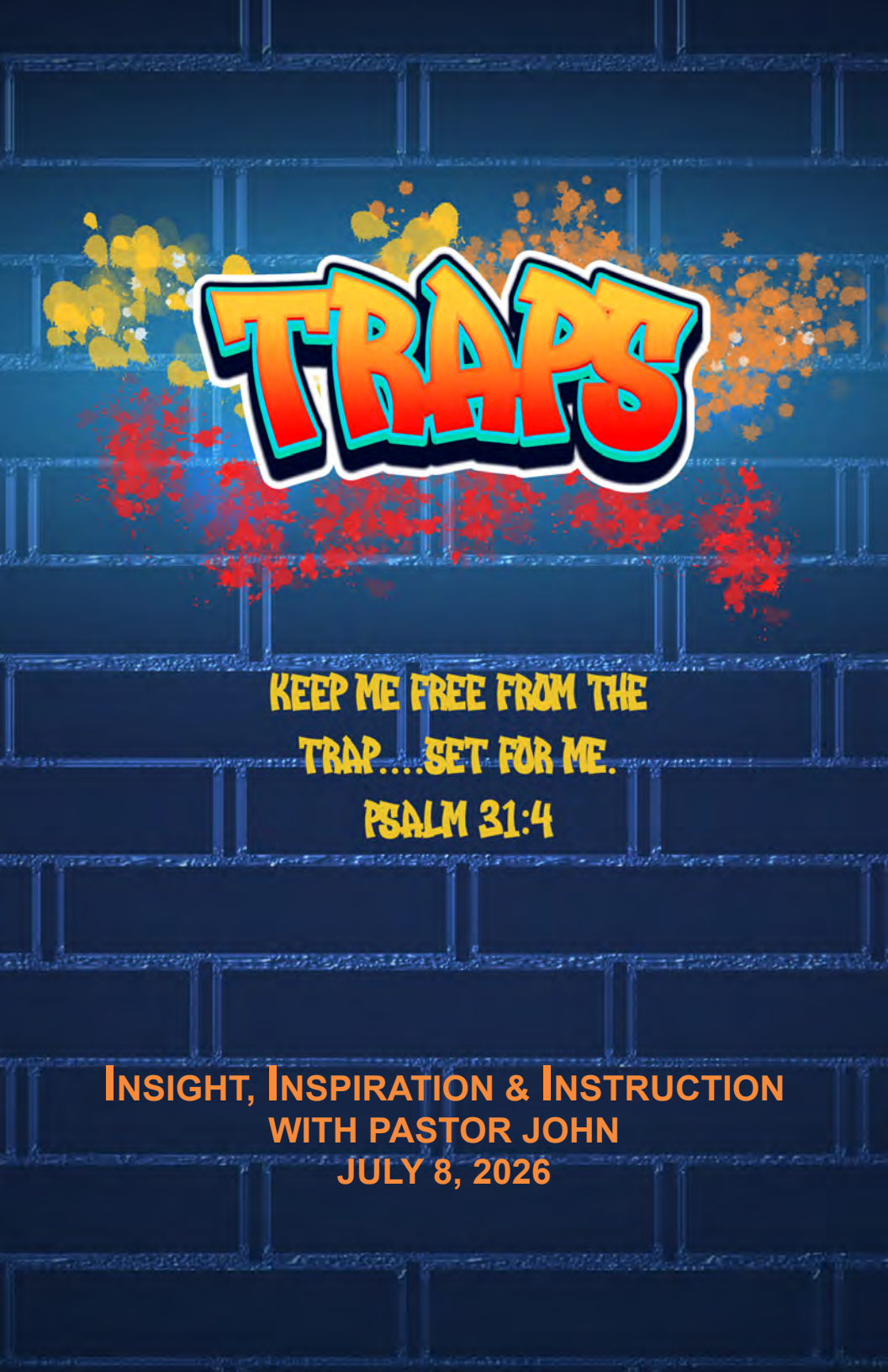




TRAPS

KEEP ME FREE FROM THE
TRAP....SET FOR ME.

PSALM 31:4

INSIGHT, INSPIRATION & INSTRUCTION
WITH PASTOR JOHN
JULY 8, 2026

ELEPHANT TRAP

TRAPS 002: THE ELEPHANT TRAP

Our Aim in Studying TRAPS:

- **To know the possible traps the enemy may use against me**
 - o 2 Corinthians 2:11 lest Satan should get an advantage over us. For we are not ignorant of his devices. (KJV-21)
 - Devices: νόημα; nóēma; a mental perception or thought, an evil purpose,
- **Set a plan how to avoid falling into the potential traps set for us.**
 - o Proverbs 3:26 For the Lord shall be your confidence, firm and strong, and shall keep your foot from being caught [in a trap or some hidden danger]. (AMP)
 - o A Way of Escape: 1 Corinthians 10:13 states that God is faithful and will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear, **providing a "way of escape"**.
 - o Proverbs 14:27 The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death.
 - o Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil
- **Find how we can be set free from the trap.**
 - o Psalm 91: 3 He is the one who will rescue you from hunters' traps and from deadly plagues.

STRATEGIC STUDY

Hermeneutics, a study with deeper insight to the interpretation of the text. Various approaches to hermeneutics, I use the approach of revealing the meaning the text in its original language and using examples we can relate to in order to understand what the Holy Spirit is wanting to relate to us in the practical.

OLD TESTAMENT HEBREW TERMS FOR TRAPS /SNARES:

- **Pach (פַּח):** Strong's H6341 Pach is the most widely used Hebrew word for a bird trap or snare. Derives from Pachach פָּחַח Strong's H6351 to spread a net, to ensnare or to trap Used 27 times in the OT
 - o It refers to a device that suddenly springs closed or a net spread out to catch unsuspecting prey.
 - o Metaphorically, it represents the traps of idolatry (Joshua 23:13) or the hidden plots of enemies (Psalm 140:5).
 - o Figuratively: Calamities, plots to work wrongfully, source or

agent of calamity. Psalm 91:3

- **Resheth (רֶשֶׁת):** To cast a net and catch/entrap animals or fish. Figuratively to judge someone and put them in stereotype, when a leader leads his people into sin. Strong's H7568
 - o Psalm 35:7 For no reason they hid their net in a pit. For no reason they dug the pit to trap me. GWT
 - o Habakkuk 1:14 How can you treat people like fish or like a swarm of insects that have no ruler to direct them? ¹⁵ The Babylonians catch people with hooks, as though they were fish. They drag them off in nets and shout for joy over their catch!

THE ELEPHANT TRAP STRATEGY

- Trappers surrounding the Elephant—The enemy will never come alone
- The strategy is to tire and confuse the elephant. The enemy will try to wear us down.
- Chain the elephant unaware—The enemy will attempt to entrap us unaware.
- Intense mental and spiritual strategy to cause confusion
- This trap reveals the reality of the cruelty of the enemy in breaking our will.

THE WARFARE OF CONFUSION

- The Devil distorted the Truth with Eve... 2 Corinthians 11:3; Genesis 3
- The Devil attempted to distort the truth with Jesus Matthew 4
- 2 Timothy 1: 7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity (of cowardice, of craven and cringing and fawning fear), but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of calm and well-balanced mind and discipline and self-control. AMP Classic

COUNTER STRATEGY

God surrounds us. Psalm 3:3 But you, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. NIV Psalm 18:30; Psalm 5:12 You bless righteous people, O Lord. Like a large shield, you surround them with your favor. GWT **GET BEHIND THE SHIELD**

His Shadow will protect us. Psalm 91: 1 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most-High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand]. (AMP-Classic) Exodus 13:21-22. **STAY IN THE SHADOW**

God will bring peace. 1 Corinthians 14:33 For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—

HOW CAN YOU COUNTER THE TRAP?

Active Prayer Life

- Pray without ceasing... 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18;

- Be constant in prayer Romans 12:12)

Active Worship Life

- Hebrews 13:15 Through Jesus we should always bring God a sacrifice of praise, that is, words that acknowledge him. GWT

Consistent reading of the Word (Have a Plan)

- Matthew 4: 4 Jesus answered, "Scripture says, 'A person cannot live on bread alone but on every word that God speaks.' " GWT
- Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. NIV

Connect with Your Church

- 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. NIV
- Hebrews 10:24 We must also consider how to encourage each other to show love and to do good things. ²⁵ We should not stop gathering together with other believers, as some of you are doing. Instead, we must continue to encourage each other even more as we see the day of the Lord coming. GWT 1 Peter 5:1-5

Warfare Unaware

Franklin Graham: "You'll just succumb to the attacks of the devil and not even be aware that you've been attacked." "The devil is wanting to trap every believer, every Christian, and if he can just get them into apathy, where they just don't care, then he wins," he said. "We have to know the Word of God, we have to study, and the devil is a deceiver, and he deceives Christians every day."

THE COUNTER STRATEGY

1 Peter 5:

- ⁷ **Turn** all your anxiety over to God because he cares for you.
- ⁸ **Keep** your mind clear,
- and be alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion as he looks for someone to devour.
- ⁹ **Be firm** in the faith
- and **resist him**, knowing that other believers throughout the world are going through the same kind of suffering. GWT

1 Timothy 6:

- ¹¹ But you, man [woman] of God, **flee** from all this,
- and **follow/pursue** righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.
- ¹² **Fight** the good fight of the faith.
- Take hold of the eternal life** to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

One last thing I want to remind... I want to declare on your life... that no weapon

Isaiah 54:17a No weapon that has been made to be used against you will succeed.