

TRAPS

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

PSALM 31:4

INSIGHT, INSPIRATION & INSTRUCTION
WITH PASTOR JOHN
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TRAPS 003: THE WOLF TRAP

QUICK SURVEY

100 people were asked...what is the one trap you fear the most.

- Getting trapped into a wrong relationship 92%
- Making wrong decisions regarding finances 82%
- Getting trapped into a mindset or lifestyle that doesn't please God 97%

THE WOLF TRAP—This is the “wolf trap,” is an example of the cruelty of Satan’s traps. The trapper studies the prey carefully.

- Habits—Lifestyle
- Where it lives—where it hangs out
- Where and what it eats
- Not just what it likes to eat...but what it loves to eat
- What it desires, craves, delights

THE ENEMY LIKEWISE STUDIES US... he goes deeper into our lives...

- Our likes and dislikes
- Our courage and our fears
- Our successes and our failures
- Our strengths and our weaknesses
- Our faith...our doubts

DESIGNING THE TRAP When the enemy knows us well...just like the trapper knows his victim...he will know exactly what kind of device...what kind of design will entrap us...

2 Corinthians 2: 11 lest Satan should get an advantage over us. For we are not ignorant of his devices. (KJV-21)

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|------------------------|--------------------|
| o Devices | KJ21 (18 versions) |
| o Schemes | NIV (22 versions) |
| o Designs | ESV (5 versions) |
| o Wiles and intentions | AMP (9 versions) |

The extended definition is deep... this is not just a device... its satan

making every attempt to influence the way the believer thinks... they way he or she sees things...sees life...sees Jesus...

- o Devices: νόημα; nóēma; a mental perception or thought, an evil purpose, the intellect, the mind and thought. Strongs #3540, used 6 times in the NT, 5 times in 2 Corinthians alone.

THIS HAS BEEN HIS PLAN OF ATTACK FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.

- The lie he used on Eve **view** ... are you sure you're going to die? Genesis 3
- The scheme...he used on David **perspective**... with Bathsheba... you are the King...2 Samuel 11
- It's what convinced Annanias and Sapphira **thinking** they wouldn't get caught taking the portion of the money in Acts 5

IT'S A BATTLE FOR THE MIND Paul stressed that if the enemy knows how to influence your mind, he can win the battle against.

- 2 Corinthians 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the **minds** (nóēma) of unbelievers, 2 Corinthians 3:14;
- 2 Corinthians 11:3 But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your **minds** (nóēma) may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every **thought** (nóēma) to make it obedient to Christ.

BUT IT FEELS SO GOOD

Unfortunately, what feels good is our weakness.

- Anger;
- Hate;
- Pay Back (vengeance, revenge)
- Rebellion (no one is going to tell me)
- Bitterness (depression, loneliness)
- Worry (anxiety)
- I got away with it;
- No one knows;
- The lie;
- The gossip;
- Take what isn't yours

MOWQESH (מִשְׁקֶל) **Strongs H4170**: Mowqesh is translated as trap, a snare or a noose to catch animals. Used. 27 times in the OT.

- o This term derives from a root מִשְׁקֶל—yâqôsh (Strongs H3369);

- meaning to entice or lay a bait. Proverbs 12:13
- o It is repeatedly used in warning Israel about the dangers of assimilating with the cultures and religions of surrounding pagan nations and serving their gods (Exodus 23:33).

COUNTER STRATEGY:

LOOK FOR THE 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".

1 Peter 5:

- A. ⁸ Keep your mind clear,
- B. and be alert.
- C. ⁹ Be firm in the faith
- D. and resist him,

1 Timothy 6:

- A. ¹¹ But you, man [woman] of God, **flee** from all this,
- B. and **follow/pursue** righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.
- C. ¹² **Fight** the good fight of the faith.
- D. **Take hold of the eternal life**

ONE LAST THING

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