

Avoiding Satan's Snares

Text: 1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

1. Don't Stray

Ps. 119:67 "Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word."

- A. **Through neglect:** Christians sometimes neglect their prayer life, and they fail to study God's Word as they should. When they do this, they begin to stray.
- B. **Through cowardice:** Some lack courage to say no to non-Christian friends. They yield to the old life and become victims of Satan's snares.
- C. **Through inattention:** (Jas. 4:7-8) We must guard our devotional life diligently, drawing near to God daily. We must take our stand boldly for God, staying away from Satan's territory

2. Don't Strut

Prov. 16:18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

- A. **The problem:** (John 12:42-43) Some Christians lack humility. They desire the praise and honor of people, rather than the approval of God
- B. **The example:** (John 8:28-29) Jesus, our example, was humble. He declared that He could do nothing by Himself, but He depended on the Father. He pleased His Father.
- C. **The command:** (Jas. 4:10) We must be humble too. We avoid Satan's snares by doing those things that are pleasing to God and by giving Him first place in our lives.

3. Don't Stoop

Rom. 12:21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

- A. The morals of our world are at an all-time low. Violence, illicit sex, alcohol and drug abuse, dishonesty and corruption in government bear this out.
- B. Millions have relaxed their moral standards because they are spiritually slack. Christ will lift and restore those who repent and forsake their sins.
- C. Christians must not condone evil, "but overcome evil with good." Assisting the less fortunate and sharing Christ with the lost will help us avoid Satan's snares.

4. Don't Stop

Matt. 10:22 But he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

- A. Some have made a good start but have come to a bad stop in the Christian life. Satan attracts, distracts, and attacks through his subtlety.
- B. No problem is too difficult, no trial is too severe, no burden is too heavy for the Christian, because God's help and grace are sufficient.
- C. (Rom. 8:37-39) God is more than a match for Satan, and we are more than conquerors through Him.