

"And he did evil, because He Prepared Not His Heart To Seek The LORD." 2 Chronicles 12:14 KJV



The faithful are in a firefight with Satan! *"Taking the Shield of Faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench ALL the fiery darts of the wicked."* Faith Will Shield us only if we stand behind it! *"Put on The Whole Armour of God."* Satan never sleeps and will even invade your dreams! Your dreams are comprised of the leftover thoughts of your day. That's why they are sometimes so bizarre. Stress also prompts dreams. It's best to prepare for sleep with a hymn, prayer, meditation, or all three, because it is the beginning of the day. *"In the beginning...the evening and the morning were The First Day."* God Began the day in the evening. How you sleep determines mood when awakening and sets the day's tone. Your mind only ponders what you give it. Like they say about computers, "Garbage in, garbage out!" Satan looks incessantly for a lowered Shield. *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."* You know why he roars? He wants you to lower your Shield and look. How does he roar? The entertainment industry is the loudest. Sports, TV, videos, parties; anything that captures your attention and swallows up your desire to read and study God's Word. Satan has a standing "shoot to kill" order for every human heart! A shield only works in one direction. You can't stand in front of it! Never turn your back on a sworn enemy! There is no such thing as leisure time for a believer. If you don't keep marching toward the enemy, he's flanking you. There's no such thing as "vigilant" sleep! His disguises are many and varied. He may be a harmless activity or a close friend. In the Vietnam War the enemy would just wound a soldier so others would come, put live grenades under the dead to explode when he was moved, or undetectable pits with sharp poisoned stakes. They used our soldier's R&R to great advantage, feeding them drugs and pleasure in places they thought they were safe. You better keep your faith's eyes open for Satan, because he never quits trying to wound, or incapacitate! Faith is a believer's "night vision!" Satan will use envy, lust, and bitterness to divide whole Assemblies! *"Looking diligently lest any man fail of The Grace of God; lest any root of bitterness, springing up, trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright."* Watch out for pleasure seeking believers! Satan is far more insidious than you can imagine and will use them to destroy you!

Prepare your heart to seek the Lord,
By thinking always on His Word,
It's flowing fountain will snuff out,
All Satan's darts that fly about. –CGP

Satan is far more clever than you, so keep yourself safe by letting the Truth *"dwell in you richly"* through constant meditation (thinking) on God's Word. You can't start a fire in a bucket of water and Satan's *"fiery darts"* cannot trouble a mind filled with the Water of God's Word. Invincibility requires preparation. You will not seek God with an unprepared heart. Confession of sin is the first step. We confess our sin as sin by forsaking it immediately with a return to obedience (repentance). God's Word Is The Light That Reveals sin. *"If we confess our sins, He Is Faithful And Just To Forgive us our sins, AND to Cleanse us from ALL unrighteousness."* You can't get clean water from a dirty bucket!

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of The Hope That Is In you with meekness and fear: Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ." 1 Peter 3:15-16 KJV