

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Look at the following incidents from scripture. How was each person tricked or trapped? How is each one like part of the attack on Eve in the garden and Jesus in the wilderness? How could each one of these be a representation of how the enemy attacks believers in today's world?

Read Genesis 25.29-34

Read Numbers 20.2-12

Read 2 Timothy 4.9-10

Read 1 Kings 16.31-33

1. [HTTPS://WWW.CHALLIES.COM/ARTICLES/COUNTERFEIT-DETECTION-PART-1/](https://www.challies.com/articles/counterfeit-detection-part-1/)
ACCESSED 9-12-17

2. RICK STEDMAN "PRAYING THE ARMOR OF GOD" 2015 HARVEST HOUSE
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A SPIRITUAL BATTLE ZONE

If you are not ready to STAND against evil I can guarantee that your enemy will be ready to attack and you will be the one he is looking for. 1 Peter 5.8 says "*your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*" Don't be that someone!

What do we learn from each of the following scriptures about the enemy and his attack?

Read Genesis 3.1-7

What was the key tactic used by the enemy here?

What three ways were they tempted? Genesis 3.6

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Read Luke 4.1-13

What was the key tactic used by the enemy here?

What three ways did the enemy attack Him?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

- ❑ What is the key tactic used by the enemy today?

- ❑ Give some example of the three different ways the enemy is attacking individuals today.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- ❑ How does Paul address the three ways the enemy attacks and our need to be ready in 1 Thessalonians 5.23?

- ❑ What is the goal Paul has for the believer and what will it take for this to happen?

- ❑ Read Philipians 2.15
- ❑ How does Paul contrast the life of the believer to those of non-believers?

- ❑ What do we learn about the living conditions or surroundings of believers?

- ❑ Ephesians 6.10-20 list seven elements of the Armor of God. How much attention should the believe give to putting on the Armor of God?

GETTING READY TO WIN!

You must know the tactics of the enemy but you must not focus your life on him. Your focus must be on Jesus. Each believer will be attacked by the enemy at various times in their lives. Yet, we often get our attention on the problem instead of the solution. James the brother of Jesus wrote, *“Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.”* James 4.7-8 A key to understanding this battle is found in the book of Revelation of John. *“The devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.”* Revelation 20.10

*“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
 “See, the home of God is among mortals.
 He will dwell with them as their God;
 they will be his peoples,
 and God himself will be with them;
 he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
 Death will be no more;
 mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
 for the first things have passed away.”* Revelation 21.1-4

Until we get there we are here with a loving Lord who has provided us with the Armor necessary to defend ourselves. It is time we put it on each day and take our stand for Him against evil.

- ❑ Read Joshua 24.15

- ❑ Read 1 John 3.10

PUTTING ON THE ARMOR OF GOD

You cannot wait until the enemy attacks to get ready. Peter tells us to “**PREPARE** your minds for action.” 1 Peter 1.13

- ❑ Read 1 Peter 1.13-16
- ❑ Vs. 13 What is the believer to focus on?

- ❑ Vs. 14 What is the believer to avoid in their lives?

- ❑ Vss. 15-16 What is the key to making this happen?

- ❑ How can the Armor of God help make this possible?

- ❑ Read Matthew 13.30 According to Jesus how long will the current conditions continue to exist for believers?

SEAT BELT CHECK

I remember a time before seatbelts in cars. When I first started wearing them it seemed strange. Now I feel something is wrong if I get in a car and don't have my seatbelt on. I won't back down the driveway without putting it on. I hope I never need it but if I do I will have mine on. We take our grandchildren in our car sometimes. Before leaving we all do a “seat belt check” to be sure everyone is buckled up. One time I forgot and boy was I in trouble. The four year old was just short of tears telling me to stop the car till we did our “seat belt check.” As believers we need to practice using our SSB or our “Spiritual Seat Belts.”

- ❑ What is Paul's spiritual seat belt for believers from Ephesians 6.10 & 6.13?

- ❑ List the safety devices located on a car designed to help prevent an accident or to help prevent injury in an accident.

- Read Ephesians 6. 14-18
- List the safety devices each believer is to employ to be able to withstand the attacks of the enemy.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

- According to Ephesians 6.10 where do these come from and why is this important to remember?

- According to Paul what should a person avoid in order to be more in tune with God’s will for their lives?

- What is the key to success for the believer?

- Ephesians 6.11-13 What does Paul want the believer to know about the enemy?

- Ephesians 6.14-18 What does Paul want the believer to focus on?

YOUR SPIRITUAL FOCUS

“Federal agents don’t learn to spot counterfeit money by studying the counterfeits. They study genuine bills until they master the look of the real thing. Then when they see the bogus money they recognize it.”¹ After studying and handling only real money they quickly spot the fakes because they don’t measure up to the real thing. Pastor Rick Stedman makes note of this same principle in the spiritual world. He wrote, “The way to defeat evil and darkness is by focusing on Jesus.”² Paul speaks about this in Romans 13, 12-14.

- How does Paul show us to focus on the real if we want to defeat evil?

CHOOSING SIDES

No one can be neutral in the current spiritual battle or war that is going on around us. How do the following scriptures help us to understand this and to help us make the right choice?

- Read John 15.19

- Read John 3.5-8