

Welcome to Rehoboth New Life Center Sunday May 22nd, 2022

The Weapons Of Our Warfare

Part 4: The Devils's Secret

2 Corinthians 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

BUT ONE THING I DO, FORGETTING ARE BEHIND AND REACHING FORWARD THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE AHEAD, I PRESS TOWARD THE GOAL FOR THE PRIZE OF THE UPWARD CALL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.

What is your Focus ?

• Psalms 119:10 ¶With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

What Are You Looking At?

• Jeremiah 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Weapons of Mass "Distraction"!



The Bible teaches that Satan comes to "steal, kill, and destroy" (John 10:10) – and that applies TO OUR PURPOSE.

- Enticing opportunities,
- Urgent obligations
- Hurtful criticism
- Unanticipated obstacles
- Sudden disputes
- Fruitless relationships
- Emotional issues

1 Corinthians 7:35 "I am saying this for your benefit, not to place restrictions on you. I want you to do whatever will help you serve the Lord best, with as few distractions as possible." (*New Living Translation*)

An Example Of Distraction ("WILES" of the enemy)



What the enemy cant Destroy, he distracts! (Michael Todd)

When Nehemiah's vision for rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem was near completion, Sanballat (a Persian officer in Samaria) tried to distract him from finishing the project. First, Sanballat mocked and ridiculed the Jews. When that proved to be unsuccessful at interrupting Nehemiah, Sanballat tried to use fear, entrapment, and political maneuvering as distracters

Avoiding Distractions



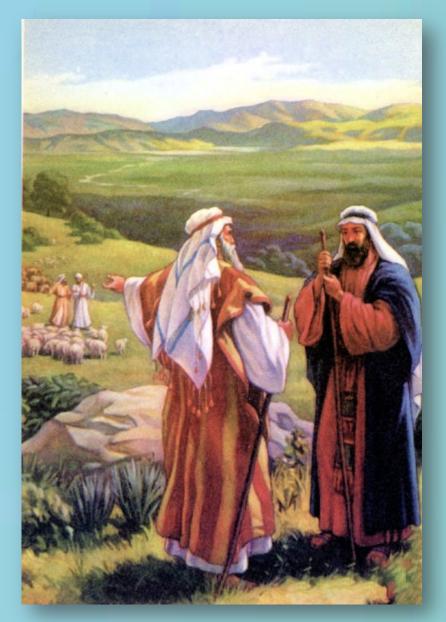
Nehemiah 6:1-4, "When Sanballat and the rest of our enemies found out that I had finished rebuilding the wall and that no gaps remained — though we had not yet hung the doors in the gates, they sent me a message asking me to meet them at one of the villages in the plain of Ono. But I realized they were plotting to harm me, so I replied by sending this message to them: 'I am doing a great work! I cannot stop to come and meet with you.' Four times they sent the same message, and each time I gave the same reply" (Nehemiah 6:1-4, New International Version).

Without a Vision (Single Minded Focus) ... The people perish

Characteristics of a Single-Minded Person

- A single-minded person has a goal. They can clearly see it and have visualized themselves claiming it. They will not allow anything or anyone to get in the way of that goal. They are actively working to achieve their goals. When not tempered by godliness, single-mindedness can look a lot like selfishness.
- But when single-mindedness becomes God-centered, it becomes commitment. It signifies one person's determination to do what God says *regardless of the cost*

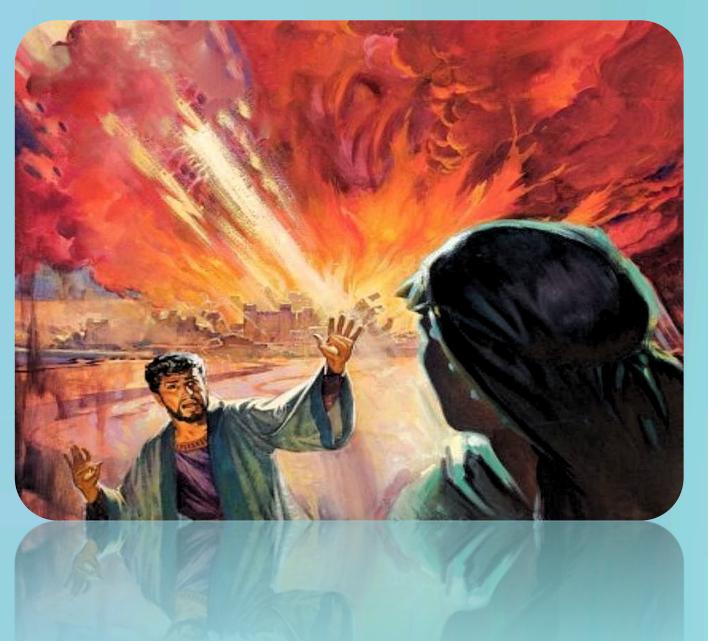
How to Fail ... Look In the wrong direction



• Genesis 13:10 ¶And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

• Daniel 4:30 The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?

The Distractions of our past!



- Genesis 19:24 ¶Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;
- 25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.
- 26 ¶But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

Focus.... "From Whence Cometh my help ?"

ULIFT UP MY EYES TO THE HILLS WHERE DOES MY HELP COME FROM?

MY HELP COMES FROM THE LORD, THE MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

PSALM 121:1-2

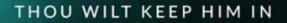
- Psalms 121:1 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help ?.
- 2 My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
- 4 Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The LORD is thy keeper: the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand.
- 6 The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.
- 8 The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

God Wants Our Focus!



- Isaiah 45:22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.
- Numbers 21:8 And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.
- John 3:14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

How To Stay Focused



perfect peace,

WHOSE MIND IS

BECAUSE HE

stayed on thee:

trusteth in thee.

ISAIAH 26:3

- Isaiah 43:18 Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old.
- Philippians 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
- Matthew 14:23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.
- Isaiah 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Blotting out the world and seeing Jesus



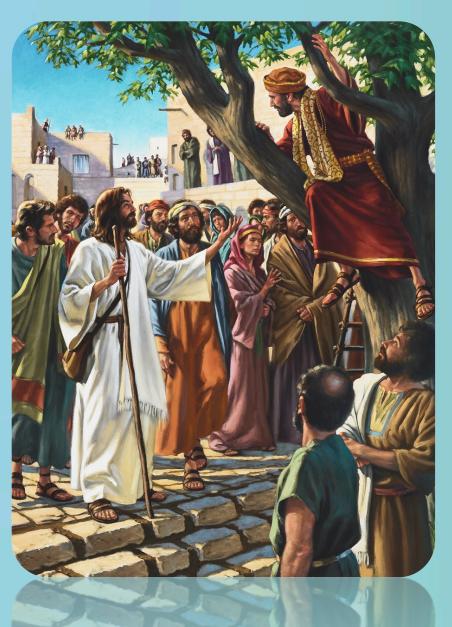
- John 12:21 The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus.
- Revelation 22:4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.
- Acts 1:9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.
- 10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

Keeping your vision and focus fixed



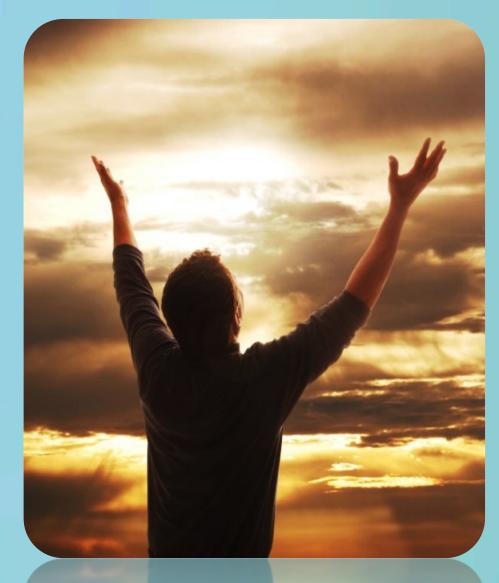
- Matthew 14:25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.
- 26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.
- 27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.
- 28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.
- 29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.
- 30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.
- 31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

When We See Him!



- Luke 19:3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.
- 4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way.
- 5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house.
- 6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.
- John 19:37 And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.
- 1 John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

Keeping your Vision Fixed



- Romans 8:4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- 5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.
- 6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.
- Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.