

Join us for

Faith  
Family Camp

June 17th-20th

At Glacier  
Bible Camp

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FORTRESS OF  
JOY CHURCH

## Watch for the Snares

The devil makes some very threatening claims where our safety and well-being are concerned. If you listen to him exclusively, he will convince you that he can make good on his threats. You need to understand that no matter how many times we defeat the devil he never gives up. He has nothing new to try on us, he just repackages the same old crap. If you listen to him often enough you will readily recognize who is trying to entice you.

2 Corinthians 2:11 Satan cannot get the upper hand on us because we are not ignorant of his devices.

I think this Scripture should read like this: **we shouldn't be ignorant!** The devil is sneaky, he's like a cat that stalks around your house without a sound. Ignorance is a choice and most Christians do not make wise choices. If you want to devil proof your life God will cover you with all of His armor. If you don't want to be bothered with it, you won't.

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

The devil cannot affect every life, only those who are ignorant of his devices. The ignorant do not know who their enemy is, they tend to wrestle with flesh and blood. They are easy prey for

the snare that the devil sets for all men. If you are diligent about renewing your mind, you will become proficient at identifying the plots and plans of the devil. One cannot have a profusion of God's will apart from the Holy Ghost. The devil's two greatest problems are the Word and the Holy Spirit. He has no weapon, no might against the Word and the Spirit he can only make fruitless accusations.

Ephesians 6:11 Put on all the armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles (methods, tricks) of the devil.

The armor of God protects us from the covert plots of the devil. We don't need protection from the attacks of the devil because Jesus **dis-armed** him. The devil can't touch us, he must stay at us until he finds a way to turn us against ourselves. If the devil can get us to say how we **"feel"** we will have

what we say. We will be caught in his snare, words entangle us and words set us free.

2 Timothy 2:25-26 In meekness instruct those that oppose themselves, that they might acknowledge the truth. And then they can recover themselves out of the snare of the devil.

These folks are those who neglected the Word, they had no armor and the devil was able to ensnare them. It would appear now that they are full of pride and God resists the proud. Their only hope is to accept the truth the servant of the Lord is sent to present them. If they would have honored the truth before hand they would not have gotten ensnared. They can pray all they want but God already gave them the way of escape. Seems like folks are always trying to find a way out, but Jesus is the way, the truth and the light.



## The Demon of Compromise

*No matter what sin or what perversion a person holds to, there is a church that will propagate their belief.*

The devil is very clever, but not only to those who shun the armor of God in ignorance. I heard a preacher make a statement once, he said the largest congregation in the body of Christ are the ignorant. Ignorance is not an excuse it's a choice, I'm ignorant of computers because I choose to be. In March of this year the Methodist leaders gathered together and voted to disavow same-sex marriage and the ordination of homosexual ministers. We have two Methodist churches in my city that came out publicly and opposed the decision of their leaders.

Like all compromisers they have become experts in the art of self-justification. They are affluent at defending their reason to defy God and His teachings. They deflect

don't call it sin.

*2 Timothy 4:3 For the time has come when they will not endure sound doctrine: but after their own lusts they shall heap to themselves teachers having itching ears.*

A large contingent of people now attend a church that teaches them what they want to hear, not "thus saith the Lord". No matter what sin or what perversion a person holds to, there is a church that will propagate their belief. The trend is for people to find a church that is easy on their lusts and flesh. God is not the main attraction, man's doctrine garners all the attention. How bizarre is it that people go to the house of God to be taught the doctrine of devils?

The Apostle Paul had a fit over a man sleeping with his stepmother, I wonder how he would react to same-sex marriage? Paul rebuked the church because they didn't see a problem with it. Perhaps this man was a good tither! We can have God or we can have sin, but we can't have both, every man must make a choice. I think that Paul is rolling over in his grave because some churches that are named after him are led by ordained homosexuals. The church of Jesus Christ is suppose to be holy, but it has become secular in its nature. I doubt very much that Paul would even be welcome in some of these churches.

*Titus 1:16 They profess that they know God: but in works they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobates.*

Saying the right things do not justify oneself, doing the right things are what draw the approval of God. People who skirt around the truth with their own production of truth only deceive themselves. The sad part of all this, they act like they are correct and some of God's chosen. All compromise will one day be avenged better in this life than the next. A large number of Christians no longer demand the truth, they are willing

to believe whatsoever those in authority are speaking. Don't let yourself be judged for the heresy that others are teaching the glibble

attention away from the sin with this statement: "what really matters is a loving, caring relationship". In their way of thinking, sin is not a sin unless you call it sin. If they don't think it is sin they

*1 Corinthians 5:1 It is commonly reported that there is fornication among you, such fornication that not even the Gentiles practice, that a man should have his father's wife.*



# Man's Greatest Weakness

Men have mastered great feats of physical strength, they have developed a well-defined body. However, every man has a weakness they are powerless to develop. Man's weak spot is his **EGO**, man constantly defends his character as defined by others. In other words, man is influenced by

the Lord, because they are afraid their friends and family will be offended. So, judge ye who is more important, what people think of you or what the Lord thinks of you. There is only one right answer to this question, can you choose what is best for you or what is best for those around you.

shape your **EGO**. If you get to the place where you don't care what people think, you will greatly hinder the influence of the devil.

1 Thessalonians 2:4 We were allowed of God to be put in trust of the Gospel, and so we speak;



whatever other people think of him. The devil knows how important it is when others evaluate you, so he preys on our frailty. When a man is controlled by what others think he has no identity.

Mathew 11:6 Blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in Me.

No matter what you think or what you believe about Jesus, there will be people in your life who will not approve. It's a sad thing but there are people who will not walk with

Mathew 16:24 If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

People who care what others think of them have no cross of their own. When you are controlled by what others think, they are nailing you to **their** cross. Let me let you in on a little secret, it's a lot easier to please God than it is people. Denying one's self includes denying what others think as well. We are to nail our **EGO** on **our** cross, this means all the things people said that helped

not as pleasing men, but pleasing God, which tries our hearts.

Pleasing men is a huge problem in the church, leaders are in fear of offending people with the truth so they modify it. No one can please the will of men and the will of God simultaneously unless the men argue with the Lord. In order to walk with the Lord we must be willing to disappoint people who are close to us. Taking offense is a choice, a wise man should make a personal declaration that he will never be offended for any reason.

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**Restoring the  
supernatural power  
of God back  
to the local church**

## Stay Alert

The devil has infiltrated our ranks, he has been on a covert mission for six thousand years. The devil is very hard to recognize, he does not wear a red suit and carry a pitchfork. The devil wears jeans or a suit, sometimes he wears a pretty black dress. He doesn't look like the traditional devil, he looks like a sincere Christian.

**2 Corinthians 11:14** For Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

The devil is a master of disguise, he can appear to be a saint and even a minister of the Lord. If a congregation is not alert they will accept the devil as one of their own! We cannot ascertain

the status of anyone based on the physical appearance of said person. Jesus said we would know the true identity of a man by his fruits. It takes awhile to display one's fruit, so we must never rush to acceptance.

**Jude 1:4** I warn you because some ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches.

Saint Jude compares these deceivers to worms, they don't walk into a church, they crawl. They come under false pretenses, but the Holy Spirit knows who they are and He sounds an alarm. If you have an ear for the Spirit you will know who you can trust or not. Don't rely on your gift of suspicion, put your trust and life in the hands of the Holy Ghost.

