

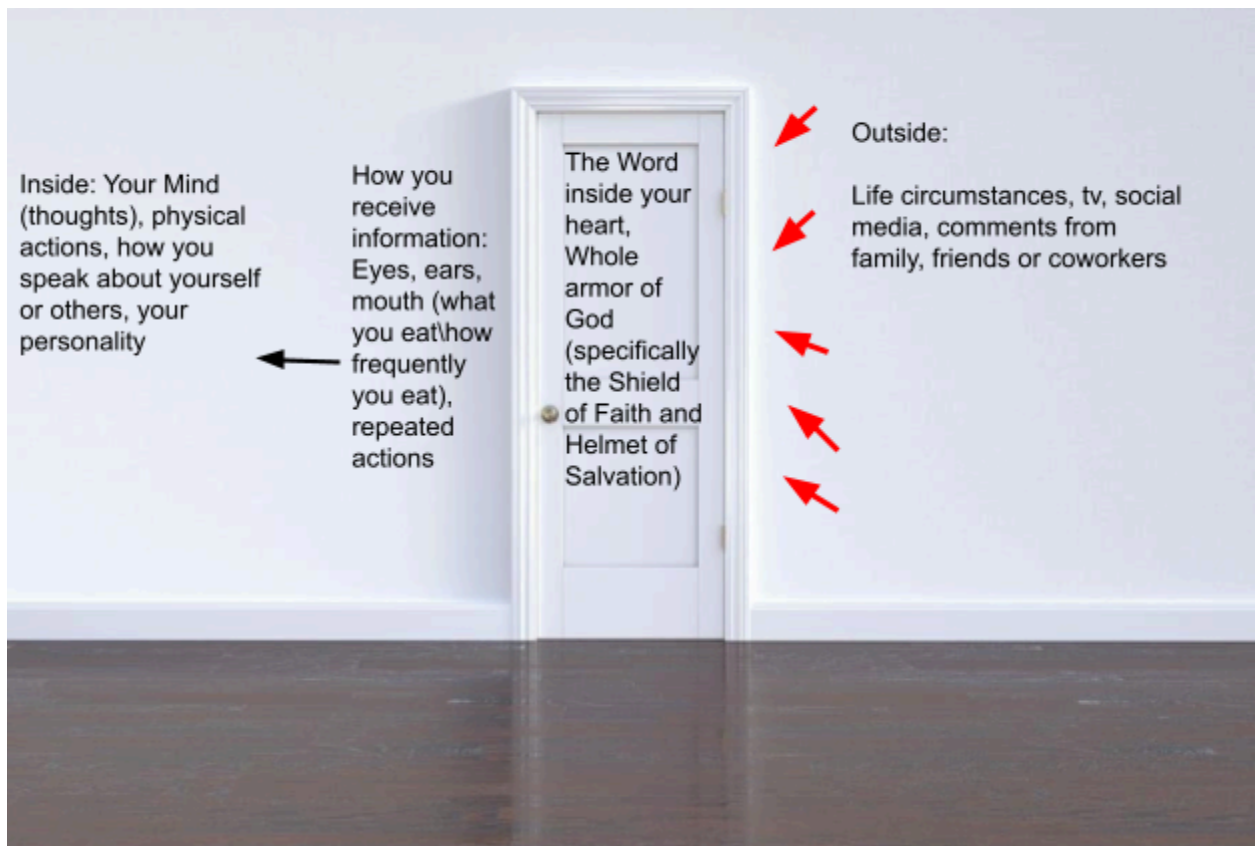
We must be diligent in recognizing that attacks from the enemy don't just come in physical forms like sickness, but in more subtle ways like lies placed in our minds to go against Christ, or worldly activities that may grow into idols. If we come in agreement with those lies, and let our flesh direct our actions, we will eventually sin.

2 Corinthians 11:3 - I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

Manipulation of the heart, mind and emotions via lies or negative thoughts.

The enemy will try to place the following in your mind or heart to try to get you to eventually come to agree with the thoughts and sin. You must continue to stay in the Word to recognize when a thought comes against it. Mind you, we are attacked not just because we may have gotten into sin (which would give the enemy a legal right), but also simply because we were made in the image of Christ (Genesis 1:26). The enemy seeks to corrupt any creation from God, including us.

2 Corinthians 10:5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.



- Fear

- Arguably the most used, this could be a fear of failure, fear of death, or fear of blaspheming the Holy Spirit.
- Coming into agreement with this will make you not move forward in the plans or actions God wants you to perform.
- Fear stopped Israel from going into the promised land when the spies came back and reported about the tribes and giants([Numbers 13](#)).
- Abraham had a **fear of death** to say his wife was his sister in Egypt because he thought the Egyptians would kill him and take her if he told the truth([Genesis 12:10-20](#)). When his lie came to the light, God still protected Abraham because of the covenant they made. God demonstrated that “if we are faithless, He remains faithful” ([2 Tim 2:13](#)).
- ([1 Samuel 28](#)) King Saul had a **fear of the future** when the prophet Samuel died and the Philistines were coming against Israel. Coming into agreement with that fear led him to go to a medium for her to summon Samuel (so another sin, witchcraft\necromancy), which led to the negative “reading” (his sons would be killed, the Philistines would win the battle and David would inherit the throne). Saul wouldn’t have come to this point if He conquered the Amalakites in chapter 15 (instead of letting King Agag live and taking their best livestock).
- To counter that fear, we have Matthew 6:34, “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”
- 2 Timothy 1:7 - For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline\sound mind.
- God does not want you to be fearful in any area but rather fearless while trusting him.

- Sadness

- Coming in agreement with this can grow into depression, hopelessness or death.
- There is a difference between simply feeling sad about a situation, versus letting the emotion take over your mind and eventually your actions. The enemy can then creep in with more negative thoughts (hopelessness, condemnation, doubt) to try and make you forget the Word and past times where God intervened in your situation.
- Job dealt with this when he started to reminisce about his social standing in the past compared to how he was now seen as a joke to the same townspeople.
- (combination of Sadness and fear)([1 Kings 19](#)) Elijah experienced this after being threatened by Jezebel and ran to Beer Sheba, wishing for death.
- Jeremiah’s grief after Jerusalem being destroyed by the Babylonians became the book of Lamentations(even though this was the consequence for Israel worshipping false gods)
- What’s the common factor in these above examples is God either spoke to them, or placed in their spirit a word to remember how He was faithful in their past. In Elijah’s case, God gave him direction to continue his Godly duties (anointing

Hazel, Jehu and Elisha) which helped change Elijah's focus from the current circumstances (other Godly prophets being killed).

- Psalm 9:9 - The Lord is a shelter for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.
- Deut. 31:8 - The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

- Greed

- Coming into agreement with this will start to redirect your trust from God to financial security. You will endlessly pursue money thinking, if you have 'just a bit more', you'll be satisfied or consider yourself "secure" when that isn't the case.
- If you let these thoughts take over, you may be victim to looking for ways to steal, lie to get more money or making reasons to **not tithe to the Lord** ([Malachi 3:8-10](#))
- Annais and Sapphira were guilty of this when they gave Peter only a part of the proceeds they received from the sold property ([Acts 5:1-11](#))
- ([Joshua 7](#)) Achan in the O.T. stole gold and silver from Jericho during the siege when God commanded the Israelites to dedicate all gold\silver\bronze\iron to the Lord and place them in the treasury. This disobedience led to 36 soldiers being killed when they attempted to take Ai and then Achan and his family being stoned.
- Luke 12:15 - Then he said to them, "Watch out and guard yourself from all types of greed, because one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."
- Ecclesiastes 5:10 - Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless.

- Pride

- Believing any thoughts of self sufficiency are connected to this.
- This was also what motivated Satan to rebel against God in Heaven (wanting to be like God instead of serving the role given to him).
- This led those in Babel to make the Tower because they sought to make a name for themselves instead of worshipping God.
- [Acts 12:21-23](#) describes how Herod was struck down by an angel and eaten by worms for accepting praise that should have been given to God.
- For us in the modern age, any thoughts of "I got to this point on my own", "I don't need anyone's help", or even "some people are more\less knowledgeable\stronger\attractive\etc than me" are simply pride arrows trying to change our thinking.
- It's only a matter of time, once you come in agreement with this spirit, God will produce a situation that will humble you.
- Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall,"
- Proverbs 11:2 - "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."
- 1Pet 5:6 - And God will exalt you in due time, if you humble yourselves under his mighty hand

- Lust

- Lust of flesh is the version of lust people usually think of since it can be defined as anything pleasing to the flesh that may be against God's direction. This can also be in relation to food, sex, worldly activities or anything pleasing the flesh that can become an addiction if you don't practice focusing on the Spirit and discipline.
- Lust of the eyes isn't just seeing someone that is physically attractive, some research suggests Eve was a victim to the lust of the eyes when looking at the tree of good and evil(.."it was pleasing to the eyes"). Remember, she was deceived by the serpent and instead of rejecting its words, she came in agreement which then led to the physical act.
- When David looked at Bathsheba bathing, he had the opportunity to turn away and go back into his bedroom, but instead requested for her to come to his palace.
- Even though Scripture separates them, if you let one version dwell too much in your mind without casting it out, the other will usually come in.
- Remember, our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, 'vehicles' for our Spirit to do the will of God.
- Romans 13:13-14 - Let us live decently as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in discord and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh to arouse its desires.

- Anger\Jealousy\Wrath\Hate

- This one should be obvious, but any violent, malicious thoughts are not from God.
- You have to keep your mind in check if you ever get angry, because that can give the enemy an open door to put in related thoughts(wanting to hurt or get revenge, word cursing someone or yourself)
- ([Genesis 4](#)) Cain killed Abel, the first passage of murder in the Bible. What started as Cain being angry that God was pleased with Abel's offering (fattest firstborn livestock he had) and not his (vegetables, but they weren't his best or first pick of crop), Cain killed his brother. This led to Cain being cursed to be a fugitive, along with the land never producing crops for him.
- ([1 Kings 21](#)) King Ahab was angry because Naboth wouldn't sell his land that was close to the palace. (it was custom to keep your land through multiple generations). Instead of letting it go, Ahab told Jezebel who then had Naboth killed after a mock trial. Ahab then took the land.
- This is not the same as righteous anger that was displayed in the Bible (ie. God being angry at sin or Israel's idolatry, Jesus flipping that vendor's tables in the temple).
- It serves no purpose to let anger direct your thoughts or actions because you will do or say something you will either regret or seek forgiveness for later. If a

situation or person's words makes you angry, it is better to swallow your pride and leave the situation, cast the anger out of yourself then make a sound decision or statement.

- Psalms 37:8 - Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.
- James 1:19-20 - Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters! Let every person be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger. For human anger does not accomplish God's righteousness.

- Laziness\Impatience

- Both are the opposite ends of the same sort of emotion. One is when you don't want to move forward (either with your responsibilities in the physical or duties in Christ), and the other is when you're wanting something before God's timing.
- Both can lead to other sin and potential hindrances that could've been avoided.
- Laziness: This can come in if you start to entertain thoughts of putting a responsibility or task off for later in the day. Even deciding to get out of the bed later than usual can eventually let this spirit in if you do it enough times. This is where you must take authority over the flesh and get up\do the work\etc. Even if the flesh doesn't want to do it.
- Impatience: This one may be a bit more subtle to notice. You may be performing actions (ie. striving) in an area, thinking that the results or growth fully depends on you instead of trusting in God. That can then lead to anger because the result is either not the result you wanted or hasn't come yet (examples: an answer from God for a prayer, a response from a job application or a promotion at work, etc.).
- Laziness: Parable of the Talents([Matthew 25:14-30](#)) - The owner was mad at the one slave who just buried his talent (about 6000 denarii each) instead of putting them in a bank or trading with them like the other two slaves (26 ... "Evil and lazy slave").
- Impatience: ([Numbers 14:39-45](#)) The Israelites received the word from Moses after being discouraged to take the promised land(via the spies' report), but some still attempted to go into the land the next day. This led to them being killed by the Amalekites and Canaanites. They should've stayed with the rest of the camp and they wouldn't have been killed.
- Proverbs 20:34 - "A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to relax, and your poverty will come like a bandit, and your need like an armed robber."
- Psalm 37:7-8 - Wait patiently for the Lord! Wait confidently for him! Do not fret over the apparent success of a sinner, a man who carries out wicked schemes. Do not be angry and frustrated. Do not fret. That only leads to trouble.

All of these spirits or "arrows" can distract you from walking in your Godly purpose and spending time with the Lord. Take a measure of time you spend outside of your job or family responsibilities on things that focus on God or strengthen your spirit.

How do you fight back? Truth from the Word. Each one of the “arrows” described above has multiple passages in scripture stating God's word to come against them. The website has prayers for each of these tactics of the enemy. Putting on your armor of God is a requirement, not optional these days in order to protect your mind. Fasting on a consistent basis will help you continue to take control of your flesh and mind. Once you realize God has given you authority over not just the enemy, but over your mind, you won't tolerate these spirits or the thoughts they try to send you.

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