

1 Peter 5:8

⁸Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

The Message

⁸Keep a cool head. Stay alert. The Devil is poised to pounce, and would like nothing better than to catch you napping.

Sober and vigilant

Matthew 26:40-41

⁴⁰Then He came to the disciples and found them asleep, and said to Peter, "What? Could you not watch with Me one hour? ⁴¹ "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Our enemy

Ephesians 6:11-13

¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Our weapons

Ephesians 6:14-18

¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; ¹⁸praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints

Worth protecting

Proverbs 4:23

²³Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.

Rotherham translation

²³Above all that must be guarded, keep thou thy heart, for, out of it, are the issues of life.

Proverbs 23:7(a)

⁷For as he thinks in his heart, so is he...

Not to be trusted

Jeremiah 17:9

⁹"The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it? ¹⁰I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.

What are you guarding?

Ezekiel 36:26

²⁶"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Christ-our breastplate

Romans 1:16-17

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Romans 3:20-23

²⁰Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.²¹But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²²even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His Righteousness

Righteousness with a purpose

2 Corinthians 5:20-21

²⁰Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Our victory secure

Colossians 2:15

¹⁵ Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

How the story ends

Revelation 12:11

¹¹"And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.