

Middle District Missionary Baptist Association The Security Brief

The approaching holiday season brings added attention to shopping centers and other soft target vulnerabilities, and should serve as a reminder of various precautionary measures to prevent you from becoming the victim of a crime.

Over the next several weeks, North Carolina will experience an increase in travelers, shoppers, celebrations, and other gatherings of symbolic importance. Thanksgiving is considered the busiest travel day of the year and Black Friday is notorious for the high volume of shoppers scrambling for bargain gifts. This creates prime targets for crime and complicates law enforcement interdiction, as they are said to be short staffed.

The vulnerability of *Soft Targets*, and being safe when at home should increase your awareness level. For the next few weeks and there after I will share with you many tips, that I feel will be a help you to, watch as well as pray, and to be wise as a serpent yet harmless as a dove.

Soft Targets Defined: Soft targets are defined as facilities and persons or personnel that have few or no safeguards to protect them against an assault or attack. They are vulnerable, accessible, and difficult to secure at all times. Examples of soft targets include theaters, shopping malls, restaurants, hotels, schools, hospitals, and churches.

In the next few weeks be it the Lord's will I will be posting tips that may help you avoid becoming the victim of a crime when your out and about, or working at your job. By taking a few simple precautions, you can reduce the risk to yourself, and also discourage those who commit crimes. Burglars, robbers, and thieves seek primarily to remove cash or property. Many such intruders are capable of harming people with little provocation, so whether at work, at home, or out and about on the street, these following precautions should be taken.

To be continued:

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