

Clear Intent

*"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:
I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).*

My home sits in a residential area that backs up to a wooded common area. Sometimes we have to deal with mice in our house (yep-yuck!). Know what I've learned about mice? They are smart and we could learn a few things from them! These little critters are very good at avoiding the traps we lay out for them. Each night, we will lay out different things in traps with hopes of catching them. Eventually they fall to what we lay out for them (sorry).

I feel strongly to warn you to be careful concerning "traps" the enemy is laying out for you. The Bible warns you about the devices (traps) of the devil.

When we lay those traps for the mice we make them super enticing. They look very appealing to mice, but make no mistake, our intent for the trap is clear. Are you seeing this? There is never anything good that can come from the devil no matter how he dresses it up.

1 Peter 5:8 tells you, "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." That someone is YOU!

The enemy is waiting to suck you into his traps by any means necessary. Don't underestimate him. He wants to destroy your testimony and kill your faith (John 10:10) and at any point in time you can easily fall prey to one of his traps.

It is not as simple to identify the enemy walking up to you with a mouse trap and trying to get you to eat off it!

John 8:43 says there is no truth in him and that he is the father of deception. The enemy is always looking for ways to get you to fall for the "trap. You can become offended, walk in doubt, harbor unforgiveness, an old habit you thought you'd conquered suddenly beckons to you-etc... and you end up falling.

You need to be wise regarding where you are. Something is going on around you. He is the master at setting traps. Today is about walking wisely and recognizing where you are. He knows how to package traps that are not blatant so you take the bait.

God wants to bring you to the place where you can quickly spot the trap. We are not to live in reaction to life's circumstances – we are to live in response to God. With the power of Christ you can say, "I am not taking the bait!" When you take his bait, you give him the opportunity to establish a place in your life. Don't bite! Don't nibble! Walk away from it!

Psalms 124: 7, "Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CS9vUZnAtcE>

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