

“BEWARE OF THE SNARE!”

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Therefore, I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. (2 Peter 1:12).

WE ALWAYS NEED TO BE REMINDED OF THE THINGS WE KNOW AND ARE ESTABLISHED IN THE TRUTH WE HAVE.

2 Peter 3:17 – Ye therefore, beloved, knowing these things beforehand, beware lest, being carried away with the error of the wicked, ye fall from your own steadfastness.

Jude 1:5 – Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.

Rom. 15:14-15 – I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another. But on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God

Phil. 3:1 – Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you.

1 John 2:21 – I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.

Forgetfulness is not conquered passively; rather, it is conquered actively.

2 Peter 1:10 – Wherefore, brethren, give the more diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never stumble:

1 Cor. 10:12 – Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

Acts 20:35 – In all things I gave you an example, that so laboring ye ought to help the weak, and to REMEMBER THE WORDS of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

2 Peter 3:2 – that ye should REMEMBER THE WORDS which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and the commandment of the Lord and Saviour through your apostles:

Jude 1:17 – But ye, beloved, REMEMBER YE THE WORDS which have been spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;

LESSON:

When we drift; when we become complacent; lukewarm; indifferent; lax; i.e., depart from our first love...and remain in that condition for a prolonged period of time; we suffer in our remembrance of “THE WORDS”! We are not simply ‘sitting on the bench’ of the Lord’s army, yet still practicing on the sidelines to stay in shape.

Should we come to our senses and return to the battle, a big self-deception we have is that we pick up right where we left off...with the same strength of will to fight the devil’s tactics, with the same sharpness of discernment we once had...

We were just ‘on a hiatus’, so to speak from the war against evil...getting our second breath, while others set the battle in array...

Such is the self-evaluation many conclude of themselves. They reason that to be “not far from the kingdom of God” (Mark 12:34), is to be in no real danger.

No spiritual nourishment; no edification received or given; no exercise of faith, but still “on the Lord’s side”...only took a breather, while a sub temporarily took their place.

Imagine a babe (or adult) receiving no physical nourishment, isolated from family, with no communication as to their whereabouts, engaging in no physical exercise...just watching others live their lives, not wanting to engage with anyone about anything.

Imagine an employee; an employer leaving their responsibilities without any explanation to anyone as to why...

Then, days, months, years, later, just resuming their place as if nothing ought to be questioned; and retaining full strength of will and memory, know what changes had occurred during their absence...

Just some thoughts...brethren and friends, let us not make mockery of our God and Creator. Let us not serve God with a “double heart” (1 Chronicles 12:33).

"Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Wherefore take up the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; withal taking up the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: with all prayer and supplication praying at all seasons in the Spirit, and watching thereunto in all perseverance and supplication for all the saints..." (Eph. 6:10-18).

The battle is real. rdb