

Are you Shackled?

“Lest Satan should get an advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices” (2 Corinthians 2:11)

If you were asked how you feel about yourself, how would you answer? We could all answer that life can really only be explained in terms of Jesus Christ including who we are in Him. However, how you feel about yourself is a combination of longstanding feelings stemming from childhood, mingled with feelings associated with your adult choices, relationships and things associated with your current situation.

The Bible **does NOT** speak a lot about the power of the enemy as it does his extreme subtlety, trickery, & deceptiveness. It is the subtle use of his twisted influences that trickle into your life. Two very strong influences that the enemy often uses are: Feelings of inadequacy or low self-worth (AKA:Self-esteem).

The enemy's purpose is to diminish Christ in your life as he exploits your weaknesses to place upon you discouragement, disappointment, failure and abdication of who you are in Christ. Feelings of inadequacy or low self-worth create shackles as they bring forth feelings of defeat and failure.

Be honest, how often do you feel inadequate to perform a given assignment from the Lord? Inadequacy is inked directly to your self-esteem. Self-esteem is critical in how you respond in life. One's opinion is wrapped in their self-worth which centers on one's dignity or worth. Inadequacy involves feelings of poor quality, or lower rank or capacity. When one feels lacking in worth it triggers feelings of insufficiency and purpose.

This is when the enemy can gain advantage over you. You have just become ignorant to his tactics and victim to his snare. Perhaps, that's why Paul said, “And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness” (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Paul's weaknesses were God's secret power and He worked through them. Your weaknesses become God's super power in you. God can and will work through you if you give Him what you have. He then can take it, mold it, and use it successfully. And like Paul, you can declare with fact that you can do **ALL** things through Christ who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13).

Use this quarantine time to be self-controlled and alert allowing God to work on those things within as you remember the enemy prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8).

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March 25, 2020