

STAND FIRM: GET YOUR SHIELD UP!

January 13, 2013 Ephesians 6:16 by Bob Branch
Standing In Your Inheritance in Christ, Part 35

MAIN IDEA: You are in a spiritual battle, with a shield to protect yourself and advance the fight. Today we'll look into What your shield is, how the fight may come against you, and how to protect yourself.

Shield DEFINED

Your shield is FAITH. (in 3D)

BODY OF KNOWLEDGE/TRUTH 1 Timothy 3:9

YOUR CONSCIOUS AGREEMENT James 2:19

PERSONAL TRUST Romans 15:13 (Eph. 3:12; Phil. 1:6)

So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.
Hebrews 10:35

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. **Hebrews 11:1**

The reason you need a shield: ARROWS OF ATTACK!

“each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.” **James 1:14**

WHAT TO EXPECT? Thoughts of..

- ✓ Lust, desire, wantonness(Eros/Cupid)
- ✓ Doubt, unbelief, mistrust
- ✓ Confusion, insanity, crazed and irrational
- ✓ Destructive, abusive
- ✓ Hopelessness, giving up, discouragement, fatalism
- ✓ Self-destruction, suicide
- ✓ Fear, terror, anxiety
- ✓ Accusing, condemning
- ✓ Hateful, malicious, anger, rage, furious
- ✓ Disobedience, rebellion

Avenues: Thoughts. Feeling. People's words. (Peter: Matt. 16:23)

PURPOSE of the arrows: Why?

- ✓ To take you out
- ✓ To compromise you into withdrawal
- ✓ To separate you from others
- ✓ To lure you into sin (1 Chr. 21:1)
- ✓ To discourage
- ✓ To kill your faith
- ✓ To cause you to kill yourself
- ✓ To **create a trend**, a habit of mind

Ultimately, **to get you to agree with him**

How to use your shield: SHIELD'S UP-EYES UP!

- Recognize the attack and its source.
Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. **1 Corinthians 16:13**
- Take the thoughts captive. Renounce, bind, be decisive, don't bow to it.
“we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” **2 Corinthians 10:5**
- Boldly redirect your attention/focus back to Jesus.
So we say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?” **Hebrews 13:6**
I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. **Psalms 121:1–2**
The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. **Psalms 145:15–16**
- Aloud, reaffirm and declare God's truth. Declare God's word/promise.
- Pray the Bible, inserting your name personally into the verses.