



- Three Great:
  - “Enemies Of The Soul” That:
    - Are The Primary Sources:
      - Of Temptation:
        - The World, The Flesh, And The Devil!
- Turn With Me In Your Bibles First:
  - To Ephesians 2:1-3 - Where Paul Writes:
    - “And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; / Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: / Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others!”
    - The Way We Used To Live & Walk Was:
      - According To:
        - “The Course Of This World!”
        - “The Prince Of The Power Of The Air”:
        - Which Is The Devil!
        - And - “In The Lusts Of Our Flesh!”
  - Again - The World, The Flesh, And The Devil!
- This Is Put Even More Succinctly:
  - In James 3:15 - When James:
    - The Wisdom That Is Not From Above:
      - And How It’s Source Is:
        - “Earthly, Sensual, And Devilish!”
    - That Is:
      - The World, The Flesh, And The Devil!

7. And - To Each Of These Sources:
- Of Temptation:
    - We Need To Be & Need To Stay:
      - On Guard!
  - Even As:
    - The Old English Book Of Common Prayer Tells Us:
      - “From The Deceits Of The World, The Flesh, And The Devil – Good Lord, Deliver Us!”
  - So - Tonight:
    - I Want Us To See:
      - Three Areas In Which:
        - We Need To Be On Guard!
        - We Need To:
          - Guard Our Homes!
          - Guard Our Hands!
          - Guard Our Hearts!

\* So - First - We Need To:

**1. Guard Our Homes!**

- Especially From:
  - The Onslaught Of:
    - The Deceitfulness:
      - Of This World!
      - Of This Old & Fallen World!
  - Your Home:
    - And Your Family:
      - Is A Battleground:
        - For The Temptations Of This World!
  - And This Is Why We Need To:
    - Be On Guard:
- By Keeping Prayer In Place!
  - When Jesus And His Disciples Where In:
    - The Garden Of Gethsemane:

- Remember What He Said When He Found Them Asleep?
  - As Recorded For Us In Matthew 26:41 - He Said - “Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak!”
- We Need To Pray:
  - For Your Homes:
    - And For Our Families!
      - And - Not Just Your Own:
        - But Others!
  - This Is A Great Ministry:
    - That We Can & Should All:
      - Be Involved With!
        - To “Watch” - To Be “On Guard”:
        - By Praying For Each Other And With Each Other!
      - But - Also - Can Also Be On Guard:
- By Keeping Protections In Place!
  - According To Ephesians 6:4:
    - Parents Have The Responsibility To:
      - Bring Their Children Up “In The Nurture And Admonition Of The Lord!”
  - Not Only Does This Include:
    - Teaching Them About The Lord:
      - But - It Also Includes:
        - Protecting Them From The World:
          - For As Long As They Are In Their Homes!
  - If Children Do Not Hear:
    - The Difference Between:
      - Right & Wrong From Their Parents:
        - Who Do You Think Will Tell Them?
          - The World?
            - Of Course Not!
  - But - This Responsibility:
    - Is Not Just The Responsibility:
      - Of The Parents:
        - But Of Grand-Parents:
          - And Of Extended Family Who Are Believers As Well!
  - In 2 Timothy 1:5 - The Apostle Paul:
    - Commended The Faith Of Timothy’s Family:
      - When He Wrote - “When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also!”
    - Timothy’s Mother AND Grandmother:
      - Were A Great Spiritual Influence:
        - On His Life!
          - And - We Need To Be As Well - No Matter What Relationship We Have With Others!
  - I’ve Had Some Tell Me:
    - Well - I Don’t Want To Judge:
      - My Grand-Children:
        - Or - My Nephews & Nieces!
          - I Just Want To Be Loving!
    - The Truth Is - It Is Not Judging:
      - If You Tell The Truth:
        - About The Sin And Deceitfulness:
          - Of The World!
            - It **Is** Loving!
  - If A Child That You Knew & Loved:
    - Was Playing With Fire:
      - What Would You Do?
        - Would You Stop Them:

- Even Though You Might Hurt Their Feelings?
- This Is What The World Is:
  - To Our Homes!
    - It Is A Fire - That Tempts Our Families:
      - To Play With Sin:
        - That Will Only Lead To “Everlasting Burnings!”
- When It Comes To:
  - The Enemy Of This World:
    - We Need To Be On Guard!
      - And Keep The Prayers And The Protections In Place:
        - That Are Necessary To Fight Its Temptations!
  - Always Remembering:
    - That It Is Jesus:
      - Who Is Always There:
        - To Help You!
    - Even As He Said:
      - In John 16:33 - “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world!”
- Be On Guard!
  - And Guard Your Home!

\* Then - Second - We Need To:

## 2. ***Guard Our Hands!***

- Especially From:
  - The Onslaught Of:
    - The Deceitfulness:
      - Of The Flesh!
        - Of Our Own Sinful, Fallen Flesh!
  - The Flesh:
    - That Paul Described In This Way:
      - In Romans 7:18 - “For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not!”
  - And - There Are Certain Things:
    - That Your Flesh Will Use:
      - To Tempt You & To Draw You:
        - According To Your Own Lusts!
  - John Bunyan:
    - Is An Old, Puritan Pastor And Author:
      - Who Is Best Known For His Book:
        - “The Pilgrim’s Progress!”
    - Well - He Wrote Another Book:
      - Titled “The Holy War” - In Which:
        - The Town Of Mansoul Is Being Attacked By Its Enemy:
          - Diabolos!
  - And The Gates Into The Town:
    - That Diabolus Used:
      - To Gain Control:
        - Had Names That Represent:
          - Our Own Senses!
    - Like The:
      - Eye-Gate:
        - Which Was One Of The Most Significant Of The Five Gates Entering Into Mansoul!
  - And:
    - The Ear-Gate!
    - The Mouth-Gate!
    - The Feel-Gate! And Even:
    - The Nose-Gate!

- Each Of These Gates:
  - Are Ways In Which:
    - Your Flesh Will Seek To Gratify Itself:
      - According To Its Former Lusts And Desires!
- In Psalm 101:3:
  - David Was On Guard:
    - Over The Eye-Gate:
      - Of His Soul!
  - When He Resolved:
    - “I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me!”
- In Proverbs 4:20-22:
  - King Solomon Describes What It Takes:
    - To Be On Guard:
      - Over The Ear-Gate:
        - Of Your Soul!
  - “My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. / Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. / For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh!”
    - And Then:
- In Proverbs 4:24:
  - He Adds What We Need To Do:
    - To Be On Guard:
      - Over The Mouth-Gates:
        - Of Our Souls!
  - “Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee!”
- And In Philippians 4:8:
  - The Apostle Paul Teaches Us:
    - How To Be On Guard:
      - Over The Feel-Gates:
        - Of Our Souls!
  - Because - How You Feel About Things:
    - Is Intimately Related To:
      - How You Think About Things!
  - And So - He Writes:
    - “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things!”
- When It Comes To:
  - The Enemy Of Your Flesh:
    - You Need To Be On Guard!
      - And Carefully Watch The Gates:
        - That Can Be Used By Your Flesh:
          - To Tempt You And Draw You Away:
            - Into Sin!
  - Always Remembering:
    - That God Had Given You:
      - The Holy Spirit:
        - To Be With You & To Help You:
          - In This Battle:
            - With The Flesh!
    - So - As Paul Tells Us:
      - In Galatians 5:16-17 - “This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. / For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would!”
  - Be On Guard!
    - And Guard Your Hands!

\* And Then - Third - We Need To:

3. ***Guard Our Hearts!***

- Especially From:
  - The Onslaught Of:
    - The Deceitfulness:
      - Of The Devil Himself!
  - In 2 Corinthians 2:11 - The Apostle Paul:
    - Reminds Us That - As Christians:
      - “We are not ignorant of his devices!”
      - And That Is Why We Must Not Let Him:
        - “Get An Advantage Of Us!”
- The Devices Of The Devil:
  - Are As Old As The World Itself!
    - It Is Commonly Accepted:
      - That The Devil Tempted Eve:
        - In The Three Ways Described By The Apostle John:
          - In 1 John 2:14-17 - “I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one. / Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. / For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. / And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever!”
  - The Three Devices Of The Devil Are:
    - The Lust Of The Flesh!
    - The Lust Of The Eyes! And:
    - The Pride Of Life!
  - Each Of These Temptations:
    - Can Be Seen:
      - In The Temptation Of Eve:
        - In Genesis 3:6! Because:
          - “When The Woman Saw That The Tree Was Good For Food” - It Was Because:
            - The Devil Appealed To:
              - The Lust / Desire Of Her Flesh!
          - When “It Was Pleasant To The Eyes” - It Was Because:
            - The Devil Appealed To:
              - The Lust / Desire Of Her Eyes!
          - And - When It Was “A Tree To Be Desired To Make One Wise” - It Was Because:
            - The Devil Appealed To:
              - The Pride Of Her Life!
      - And So - We All Know What Happened Next:
        - “She Took Of The Fruit Thereof, And Did Eat, And Gave Also Unto Her Husband With Her; And He Did Eat!”
      - And Then - Paul Sums Up The Rest:
        - In Romans 5:12 - “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned!”
  - But - When Jesus Came Into This World:
    - The “Seed Of The Woman” Who Was Promised:
      - To Bruise / Crush:
        - The Head Of The Serpent:
          - The Devil Met His Match!
    - In Matthew 4 - When The Devil:
      - Came To Jesus In The Wilderness:
        - To Tempt Him:
          - He Pulled Out The Same Devices He Has Used:
            - Since The Beginning!
    - He Attempted To Appeal To:
      - The Flesh Of Jesus:
        - By Telling Him In Matthew 3:3:

- “If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread!”
- He Wanted To Get Jesus:
  - To Satisfy The Longings Of His Flesh:
    - In A Way Contrary To:
      - The Will Of God His Father!
- He Attempted Also To Appeal To:
  - The Eyes Of Jesus - In Matthew 3:8-9:
    - When He - “Taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; / And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me!”
  - He Wanted To Get Jesus:
    - To Seek After Some:
      - “Bewitching Object To His Eyes!”
- He Further Attempted To Appeal To:
  - The Pride Of Jesus:
    - When He Urged Him - From “A Pinnacle Of The Temple” - In Matthew 3:6 - To:
      - “Cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone!”
    - He Wanted To Get Jesus:
      - To “Fly In The Air In Pride” So That:
        - He Might Get Glory Among Men!
  - And Yet - In All These Temptations:
    - Jesus Resisted The Devil:
      - Until He Fled From Him!
- The Devil Will Continue To Use:
  - These Devices:
    - To Tempt You!
      - And That Is Why:
        - You Need To Keep Guarding Your Heart!
  - Even As We Are Told:
    - In Proverbs 4:23 - “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life!”
      - So - To Be On Guard - And:
        - To Say On Guard:
          - Resist The Devil:
- Through The Scripture!
  - Remember To Follow The Example Of Jesus:
    - Who With Each Temptation:
      - Wielded “The Sword Of The Spirit, Which Is The Word Of God!”
  - Remember That:
    - God’s Word Is:
      - “A Lamp Unto Your Feet & A Light Unto Your Path!” (Psalm 119:105)
  - Also - You Can Resist The Devil:
- Through The Spirit!
  - It Is The Spirit Of God:
    - Who Will Be The One Referred To:
      - In Isaiah 30:21 - “And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left!”
- When It Comes To:
  - Your Enemy The Devil:
    - You Need To Be On Guard!
      - And Carefully Watch For:
        - The Devices & The Wiles:
          - He Will Use Deceive You And To Tempt You:
            - To Forget & To Forsake The Will Of God!
  - And - Always Remember:
    - That You Are Not In This Fight Alone!

- Remember That - According To 2 Peter 2:9 - "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations!"

- Be On Guard!
- And Guard Your Heart!

**Conclusion:**

1. How "On Guard" Are You Tonight?
  - Are You Guarding:
    - Your Homes:
      - Through Prayer & Through Protecting Them:
        - As Best You Can:
          - From The World - As It Tries To Invade The Sanctity And Security:
            - Of The Christian Home?
  - Are You Guarding:
    - Your Hands:
      - As Well As The Other:
        - Gates That Your Flesh Can Use:
          - To Tempt Your Soul?
    - Remember:
      - 1 Peter 2:11 - "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul!"
  - And - Are You Guarding:
    - Your Heart:
      - From The Devices Of The Devil?
        - Are You Resisting Him:
          - Through The Scripture & Through The Spirit Of God?
2. Remember The Words Of Jesus:
  - To His Disciples - And To You Tonight:
    - Mark 14:28 - "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak!"

\* Are You Guarding Your Homes & The Hearts Of The Ones You Love?

\* What Steps Do You Need To Take Tonight To Step Up The Guard Over Your Own Heart?

***Grace Baptist Church***

***Stephen Elmer, Pastor***

***4245 North 200 West***

***Greenfield, Indiana 46140***

***317-326-2362***

***[www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace](http://www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace)***

***[www.growatgrace.org](http://www.growatgrace.org)***

***[pastor-elmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastor-elmer@hotmail.com)***