BEING AWARE OF SATAN'S STRATEGIES. SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH, 2020 PASTOR AUDIE D. CLAIRMONT

1. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND AND APPLY THE DELIVERANCE GOD HAS FOR US.

1Peter 5:8-9-NLT

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

9 Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith.

Passion 8 - Be well balanced and always alert, because your enemy, the devil, roams around incessantly, like a roaring lion looking for its prey to devour.

9 Take a decisive stand against him and resist his every attack with strong, vigorous faith.

Wuest - <u>Be of a sober mind, be watchful</u>. Your adversary who is a slanderer, namely, the devil, as a lion roaring in fierce hunger, is constantly walking about, always seeking someone to be devouring. <u>Stand immovable against his onset</u>, solid as a rock <u>in your faith,...</u>

Ephesians 2:1-2-AMP

1 AND YOU [He made alive], when you were dead (slain) by [your] trespasses and sins
2 In which <u>at one time</u> you walked [habitually]. You were following the course and fashion of this world [were under the sway of the tendency of this present age], following <u>the</u> <u>prince of the power of the air</u>. [You were obedient to and under the control of] the [demon] spirit that still constantly works in the sons of disobedience [the careless, the rebellious, and the unbelieving, who go against the purposes of God].

Wuest - ...at one time you ordered your behavior as dominated by the spirit of the age in this world system, as dominated by the leader of the authority of the lower atmosphere,...

Our general approach to protecting ourselves from Satan's strategies and attacks are:

To be sober: (to be calm and sensible, unemotional, logical)

To be <u>vigilant:</u> (watchful, alert, (be cautious: watch for possible danger or difficulties, to pay attention so as not to be overtaken by a surprise attack.)

To **recognize ways** in which the devil may try to deceive or destroy us.

To resist the enemy, remaining steadfast in the faith. (1 Peter 5: 8–9)

One of the Satanic strategies Satan uses against us is deception:

Genesis 3:1-NLT

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, "<u>Did God really say</u> you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

Mark 11:23-CJB

Yes! I tell you that <u>whoever does not doubt in his heart</u> but <u>trusts</u> that what he says will happen can say to this mountain, 'Go and throw yourself into the sea!' and it will be done for him.

Romans 14:23b-NLT

....For you are not following your convictions. <u>If you do anything you believe is not right</u>, you are sinning.

2. WE HAVE TO <u>STAND ON</u> THE TRUTH AND <u>USE</u> THE TRUTH AGAINST SATAN IN ORDER TO DEFEAT HIM.

John 8:32-AMP

And you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.

Passion - ... "When you continue <u>to embrace all that I teach</u>, you prove that you are my *true followers*. 32 For if you <u>embrace the truth</u>, it will <u>release more freedom into your</u> <u>lives</u>."

Ephesians 4:12-14-NLT

Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do His work and build up the church, the body of Christ.

- 13 <u>This will continue until</u> we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, <u>measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.</u>
- 14 <u>Then</u> we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.

When we as believers <u>attain</u> <u>oneness</u> in the faith and <u>experience</u> the fullness of what it means to know the Son of God, and <u>we become</u> one perfect man with the <u>full dimensions</u> of spiritual maturity and <u>fully developed</u> in the abundance of Christ,

Apostle Paul said: And then our <u>immaturity</u> will end! And <u>we will not be</u> easily shaken by trouble, nor <u>led astray</u> by novel teachings or by the false doctrines of deceivers who teach clever lies (Ephesians 4:13,14)

2Thessalonians 2:9-10-NLT

This man (the anti-christ) will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles.

10 He will use <u>every kind of evil deception</u> to fool those on their way to destruction, <u>because they refuse to love and accept the truth that</u> would save them.