

A Five fold enemy!

God gave the five fold gifts to the body to perfect it - (make complete, fully grown up, whole)

So we could do the work of the ministry -

We are sent, we speak as the oracles of God, we are to preach the gospel, we are to edify (build up) one another and we are to teach others about Jesus in love.

- Apostle influence – to cause us to go being sent out
- Prophet influence – A strong voice, a quiet voice speaking from God for today and for the future.
- Evangelist influence – invokes us to “share the good news of Jesus”
- Pastor – Trains, cares for, feeds and protects the sheep
- Teacher – instructions for the daily walk

1Ti 1:18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou **by them mightest war a good warfare;**

Do the work of the ministry –endure as a good soldier, to fight against natural inclinations, to keep the faith.

The fight of faith is the fight to stay in faith in God and not be moved by – **ANYTHING!**

Eph 6:12 For we **wrestle** not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

- satan
- Principalities
- Powers
- Rulers of darkness
- Spiritual wickedness in high places

Eph 4:14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

The goal of God's commandment is for us to grow up and not be children any longer.

Our five fold enemy from this scripture is as follows:

1. **IMMATURITY** - Do not be children, tossed to and fro, easily moved by anything and everything, unstable, not solid, not grounded, not sure, confused, troubled on every side.
Children = immature, not grown up, childish, etc.
Immaturity is very prone to “error” – either in action or belief system
Grown up - Fully developed within and without –
2. **INSTABILITY** - Do not be carried about by every wind of **doctrine** - the latest teaching, the latest Christian fad, song, the greatest conference and so forth. Any new “doctrine” that comes along – we must test everything we hear, read and see by the standard of Jesus, the Word of God.
Doctrine: the instruction, what Jesus taught
Act 17:21 (For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)
These did nothing but study to find some new doctrine and teaching -
3. **INSECURITY** - Sleight of men, leaning on men rather than God for answers, wisdom, solutions etc. There are those who like the sleight of hand individuals will use this to enslave or trap you into their agenda or their camp.
2Pe 2:19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.
4. **INTIMIDATION** - Men will use “cunning craftiness” against you to get you off track, mislead, trick, false persuasion, convincing you their stuff is the only real stuff. We must watch what we let into our lives (hearts & minds)

We need to focus on the word “craftiness” which implies the action of witchcraft –
A Craft – is the practice of witchcraft

5. **INDIRECTION** – (deceitfulness) They plan and scheme and lie in wait (premeditated) to DECEIVE you.
Jesus said – Let no man deceive you - -

1Ti 4:6 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.
2Ti 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;
2Ti 4:4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.
2Jn 1:10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him Godspeed:
2Jn 1:11 For he that biddeth him Godspeed is partaker of his evil deeds.

Disconnect - (we must be watchful of all influence that is evil based)

We need to recognize a battle against us to keep us connected to the devices and plan of the enemy.

We must maintain the freedom Jesus gave us by keeping ourselves disconnected from anything that has to do with evil, the profane, the devil, his ways, fear, strife, and such.

Look at this verses:

Jas 3:16 For wherever there is jealousy (envy) and contention (rivalry and selfish ambition), there will also be confusion (unrest, disharmony, rebellion) and all sorts of evil and vile practices. (amp)
Eph 4:27 Leave no [such] room or foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him]. (amp)
Rom 12:9 [Let your] love be sincere (a real thing); hate what is evil [loathe all ungodliness, turn in horror from wickedness], but hold fast to that which is good. (amp)

The Second heaven -

The Bible records 3 heavens – the one we live in, the one above that which is where the devil and his demons live and then where God lives. Paul talked about being taken up to the third heaven.

Daniel records the battle between Michael and the prince of Persia – this was in the second heaven.

We are commanded to give the devil NO PLACE – (Eph 4:27)

We must break, undo, remove, cut off, disallow, any and every tie we have to the second heaven.

Example would be: Any belief or lifestyle that we hold to that is not of God and His character would be a tie to the second heaven, to the devils arena. This would keep the door open for the enemy to invade, come into, harass, oppress and otherwise make our lives miserable. – We do not need this or have to put up with it.

Jesus has set us free and we are free indeed. (really free)

A very strong scripture that sort of encompasses the flow of this sermon is found in:

Mar 16:15 And He said to them, **Go** into all the world and **preach** and publish openly **the good news** (the Gospel) to every creature [of the whole human race]. 16 He who believes [who adheres to and trusts in and relies on the Gospel and Him Whom it sets forth] and is baptized will be saved [from the penalty of eternal death]; but he who does not believe [who does not adhere to and trust in and rely on the Gospel and Him Whom it sets forth] will be condemned. 17 **And these attesting signs will accompany those who believe:** in My name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new languages; 18 They will pick up serpents; and [even] if they drink anything deadly, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will get well. 19 So then the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and He sat down at the right hand of God. 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, while **the Lord kept working with them and confirming the message by the attesting signs and miracles that closely accompanied [it]**. Amen (so be it).