

# Watch Out For Your Weak Points

The Great Wall of China was built at great expense of labour and time.

When it was constructed I'm sure that the Chinese thought it was the final answer to their security problems.

But within a few years the wall was breached three times, not by soldiers making an assault on the thick stone wall, but by enemies who bribed the gatekeepers.

A lack of integrity among the guards manning the wall was the wall's weak point.

**In Satan's war against Christians we can expect the same tactics, Satan will attack our weak points.**

**1 Peter 5:8** [NIV] *“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”*

When a lion hunts for food it will search out the young [immature] weak or defenceless animals in the herd, wearing them down by endless pursuit until exhausted they are savaged and eaten alive.

**1 Peter 5:9** [NIV] *“Resist him, **standing firm** in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.”*

**The key word in resisting the attack of Satan is “stand”.**

Paul enlarges on this theme for us to understand what is meant by “standing firm”.

**Ephesians 6:10-18** [NIV] *“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your **stand** against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able **to stand** your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. **Stand firm** then, with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”*

The word “stand” is used three times in this scripture.

**The spiritual weapons offered to Christians are all designed to assist us to “stand firm” against great opposition.**

We need to make periodic checks to see if there are cracks or weak spots in our armour, and make sure we put our armour on daily.

One water company circulated information about the high cost of leaky plumbing.

A hole of only one millimetre in a pipe would cost you over 26,000 gallons of escaped water in a month.

**So often we overlook what we consider little flaws or sins in our lives, explaining them away as just human nature.**

Certainly nothing to get excited about.

**We forget that sin is sin in whatever degree we consider it is found.**

Unless sin is checked it will grow in scope and intensity.

**To discover our points of vulnerability we need to examine our lives with the magnifying glass of God's Word, the Christian Bible.**

**Psalms 26:2** [NIV] *"Test me, O LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind;"*

This is a prayer that God will be delighted to answer, for such interaction will enable God to mould us into the child of His whom He desires to give eternal life.

**Isaiah 64:8** [NIV] *"Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand."*

**God will show us our weak points if we ask Him as He moulds our lives.**

This examination of our spiritual armour is **not** something we put off or delay.

**Romans 13:11-14** [NIV] *"And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, **because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.** The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, **clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ,** and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature."*

Each part of this spiritual armour is designed to protect us from Satan's onslaught.

This armour will only work for our protection if we deal with any weak points that God shows us.

Are we "*clothed*" with the breastplate which is Christ's righteousness credited to us because of our trust in Him, at all times and in every situation?

Are we walking in the light where we can see the temptations that may endanger us?

**John 8:12** [NIV] *"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

**Remember that lions [Satan] mostly hunt at night so we need to be constantly walking with Jesus Christ who is the light of the world.**