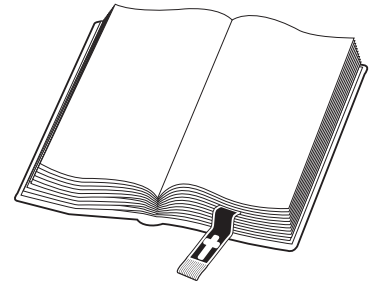


Wickedness Is All Around Me

"The wicked wait for me to destroy me, but I will consider Your testimonies." Psalm 119:95



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Beloved, you and I know that Satan wants to destroy every true believer in Christ. 1 Peter 5: 8-9 reads, *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world."* Satan attacks us physically, he attacks our marriage and our children, and he attacks us through television with immorality, violence, cursing, and mocking God. Many of the Saturday morning cartoons that we allow our children to watch are full of occult practices. Many television programs excuse and try to justify homosexuality, adultery, and abortion. Others exalt feminism and ridicule the role of husband and father, and many of the nature programs are teaching evolution.

In a Bible study that I teach at my church, one of the mothers recently told me that her 14-year-old daughter who had been raised in the church recently told her that she did not want to be a Christian. The mother found out that the daughter was cutting herself with razors. I told the mother to check her daughter's music. Hidden under the daughter's Christian CDs were two CDs full of violence, encouraging suicide and perversion. This is not the first time I have encountered this. Many Christian parents have no idea what their children are listening to, watching, or reading. We are surrounded by

wickedness on the Internet. Many men, women, and young people, who are professing Christians, are addicted to pornography.

Ephesians 6:12-13 reads, *"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."* Beloved, the only hope we have to stand true to God and resist temptation is to humble ourselves and cry out to Christ for help. James 4:6-7 tells us that God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble, and that if we submit to God and resist the devil, he will flee from us. It is only as I humble myself and submit to the Lord in obeying the Bible that I experience the power of the Holy Spirit and GOD'S AMAZING GRACE to resist temptations and all the wickedness that is in this world.

Beloved, stay close to Jesus. He loves you. Humble yourself because God resists the proud. Humble yourself, draw close to Christ, and He will help you.

— *Janice McBride*

All scripture is taken from the New King James Version of the Bible.

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