



# The Examiners

Examining the Scripture daily to see whether these things were so...Acts 17:11

## DIVINE PROTECTION

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Nominal Christian's top 3 most requested prayer items:

- Material provision (both wants and needs)
- Power to cope with pressures or problems
- Protection from dangers, disaster & Satan

Two things these nominal Christians fail to see:

- The believers are provided with all the things essentials for the perpetuation of both spiritual and physical life through the logistical grace blessings (which includes material provisions and protection).
- God has given the believers all things necessary for the pursue and execution of God's plan for their lives.

The three enemies of the believers:

- The world
- The flesh
- The Devil

Both the world and devil were defeated and declared loser but continue to make frustrated aggressive assault upon the believers. The flesh is rendered useless unless the believers allow it to dominate and take control. The believer's most dangerous enemy is self rather than Satan. The Devil gain access to influence the believer through the free will that collaborates with the old sinful nature.

There are six negative mental sins to watch: (Prov. 27:1-8)

- Pride or arrogance
- Anger or uncontrolled
- Envy and jealousy
- Pseudo love
- Indifference to the Word of God
- A false scale of values

There two categories of fear in the Bible:

- An emotional-mental attitude sin
- Reverence towards God

Reverential fear toward God draws the believer into intimacy with God that commences additional protection aside from the divine protection being in union with Christ.

- Fortification of Bible doctrine in the soul
- Fire wall as result of spiritual advance
- Fortitude that comes from the Holy Spirit

The mental attitude sin of fear is characterized by panic and anxiety concerning real and illusionary threats, danger, peril, hazard and anything that could go wrong. Six major areas that threatened the anxious person:

- Loss of power – from physical to political
- Loss of prestige – from reputation to dignity
- Loss of provision – from money to intellectual
- Loss of people – from loved ones to his very own
- Loss of potential – from skills to talents
- Loss of popularity – from approbation to fame

God's complete provision of every physical and spiritual need for every believer regardless of their spiritual status. Logistical grace keeps the believer alive, produces access to Bible doctrine, and enables him to grow spiritually in the devil's world. Divine planning, divine support, divine provision, divine protection and divine blessing given by God for the execution of the predesigned plan of God by the royal family for the fulfillment of God's will, purpose, and plan for the believer.

Logistical blessing includes temporal & spiritual provisions:

Life-sustaining support is provided by God (Psalm 48:14) which guarantees the believer existence until God call him. God preserves us from physical death until our schedule to depart.

- Temporal provisions such as time, food, shelter, clothing, transportation, environment, a job, and everything we need (Mat 6:33, Phi 4:19).
- Security provision
- Spiritual provisions such as our portfolio of invisible assets, the ten problem-solving devices, and divine power (Eph. 1:3).

The seven revealed will of God:

- Salvation (2 Peter 3:9)
- Spirit-filled life (Eph. 5:18)
- Sanctified life (1 Thess. 4:3)
- Sincere gratitude (1 Thess. 5:18)
- Suffer undeservedly (1 Peter 3:17, 4:19)
- Secure confidence (Prov. 3:5-6)
- Spiritual production (1 Peter 2:5)

General Characteristics of divine protection:

- Continuous (Psalm 121:3-8)
- Unfailing (Joshua 1:5)
- Assuring (Isaiah 41:10)
- Persevering (John 10:29-30)
- Satisfying (2 Cor. 12:9-10, Isaiah 43:2)

Divine protection is designed for the following:

- Evil (2 Thess. 3:3)
- Undeserved suffering (1 Cor. 10:13)
- Persecution (Rev. 3:10)
- Enemies (Psalm 56:9, Jer. 15:20-21)
- Falling (Judges 24)
- Dangers (Psalm 91:3-7, Prov. 3:24-26)
- Calamities (Psalm 57:1, Prov. 29:25)

General classifications of fear:

- Fear related to psychological conditions
- Fear related to non-psychological conditions
- Fear related to prejudices and discriminations
- Fear related to jocular matter
- Fear related to illusion and imagination
- Fear related to the unknown and uncertain
- Fear related to supernatural

Categories of psychological fear:

- Fear concerning living, health and well-being
- Fear concerning reputation and dignity
- Fear concerning social relationship
- Fear concerning security
- Fear concerning the future
- Fear concerning death and dying
- Fear concerning non-observable fact

Most fear is result of ignorance and personal narrow-mindedness. The truth and reality of Bible doctrine will set the believer free from fear (John 8:32). God alone through His Holy Spirit and Bible doctrine in the soul of the believer can cure all kinds of fear. God has provided us everything we need so that we do not need to fear anyone or anything except God alone.

History recorded the failure of Hannibal (247–183 BC) to capture Rome in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Punic war because he lacked logistics. Napoleon the great failed to defeat the Russian and make them surrender though he captured Moscow because he lacked logistics. Hitler failed to impose his “New Order” in Europe because he lacked logistics. Satan is marching down the path of defeat because his army possesses inferior logistics. God has sufficient logistics for the Church Age believers to win the Angelic Conflict and become invisible heroes.

Our spiritual logistics (logistikos literally means the skill of calculation – without omitting anything) includes:

- God planning our provision
- God acquiring the supply for us
- God storing the provision for us
- God allocating and sustaining the provision
- God designing our position and maneuver
- God dealing with the implementation
- God taking care of our evacuation
- God preparing our hospitalization and recovery
- God managing our momentum and advance

We need the spiritual logistics because:

- We are in spiritual warfare (2 Cor. 10:3-5) and we have spiritual enemies
- We can only use spiritual weapons (Eph. 6:11–)
- Satan can easily destroy us if we use human power, assets, wisdom and resources.
- We cannot use the logistics of the world against Satan who is the god of this world.

The Word of God has double function for the spiritual soldier of the Lord Jesus Christ (Eph. 6:10-18):

- Defense: the Word of God serves as spiritual armor that secure the believers.
- Offense: the Word of God serves as spiritual weapon that we need to defeat the devil, the world and the old sinful nature.

The Christians received at the point of salvation 40 gifts from God designed to sustain and protect the believer in the world. Nobody and nothing can hurt the believer without God allowing it (Romans 8:35-39). The believers in Christ are the most powerful people in the universe. They have the authority to utilize the omniscient power of God. The power of God is available only to advancing believers residing inside the divine sphere. In Philippians 1:29, we received two grace gifts; the saving faith and the faith for undeserved sufferings.

Faith is not an act of the will but is a response to God’s declared truth. Faith is a gift of divine grace to man before it becomes an act of man. It is not even our faith but a faith given to us from God the Father channeled through the Son made effective through the power of the Holy Spirit. Man has no power to assist God in the process of his own salvation and as much as in the process of spiritual growth.

Reverential fear of God being an act of the sovereign will of God in the believer:

- As a motive for service (1 Sam. 11:7)
- As a form of divine judgment (2 Chron. 14:14)
- As a form of divine protection (2 Chron. 17:10)

When you fear God reverently, your enemies will fear your God (being your protector) and they can only touch you with divine permission under undeserved sufferings.

Description of reverential fear of the Lord:

- Rejecting and hate satanic policy (Prov. 8:13)
- Continuing process of sanctification (Prov. 16:6)
- Enjoying the fountain of life (Prov. 14:27)
- Accepting the training of wisdom (Prov. 15:33)
- Understanding the wisdom of God (Job 28:28)
- To honor God for a lifetime (Prov. 23:17)

The Christian cannot serve two masters:

- But either reverently fearing the Lord
- Or deviously fearing creatures, natures or things

Four lines of divine protection for the believers:

- All believers: divine protection on the ground of the resident perfect righteousness of God in the believer imputed at the point of salvation.
- Some believers: divine protection from the basis of metabolized Bible in the soul of advancing and mature believers.
- Few believers: divine protection on the basis of election, metabolized Bible doctrine and spiritual maturity provided with a wall of fire to make impact and become an invisible heroes.
- Very few believers: Additional divine protection provided to those who are proclaiming the true Gospel and communicating Bible doctrine as they increase intimacy with God.

Correction for wrong beliefs related to divine protection:

- God will not protect a person because somebody is requesting and pleading God for it (2 Thess. 3:1-18). Prayer is commanded but it cannot accomplish anything apart from the Word of God in the life of the believers.
- God will not bless a person because somebody says so ("may God bless and protect you"). It is a big mistake to think that because you are a great prayer warrior that God will do whatever you may request from Him.
- God will not protect you because your religious leaders with their "super faith" prayed for you. That scheme of prayer makes people feel secured without being protected by God.
- God will not protect you because you prayed to Him. Divine protection is not based on prayer and petition but on the character or essence of God. Your spiritual armor is the Word of God not your sincere prayer.
- God will not protect you while you put yourself in dangerous situations depending on human and mechanical security. Your ultimate security is the Bible doctrine which you despise and habitually neglect.
- God will not protect you by acquiring k-9, weapons, security devices, or private army. What you need is to attain spiritual maturity to employ the divine resources and assets you have in the Lord Jesus Christ and see the divine protection in your life operational.

Most preachers are selling false gospel and false teachings that ensnare the people into the slavery of ignorance and dependency on men rather than on God. The fearful, anxious and panic stricken people are congregating into local churches seeking provision, pleasure and protection. Divine protection functions under the filling of the Holy Spirit and maximum amount of Bible doctrine in the souls not by special prayer and anointing of your most holy pastors. In that case, you are substituting man to provide you the protection that can only come from God.

The exploitation of prayer by Christians:

- The illusion that prayer is all you need to be protected from Satan, flesh and the world.
- The delusion that the greater the power and authority of preacher the greater the power of their prayer. (The authority of the pastor is Bible doctrine in his soul, his power is the indwelling Holy Spirit and epignosis, and his prayer is answer based on who and what God is).
- The deception that the power of prayer depends on the one praying. People are seeking the prayer of their anointed almighty preachers whose aggressiveness and boldness are mistaken for true zeal in the Lord.
- The false impression that those anointed religious leaders are effectual prayer warriors than the rest of mankind. The effectiveness of prayer is not based on man but on the maximum doctrine in the souls of believers and their consistent function inside the plan of God.

Ignorance of Bible doctrine related to divine protection:

- Ignorance of Bible doctrine results to misuse and abuse of prayer by most Christians.
- Ignorance of Bible doctrine causes misuse of prayer and fasting.
- Ignorance of Bible doctrine causes prayer that God cannot answer.
- Ignorance of God's Word makes the believer priest outside fellowship with God pray apart from God's will and purpose.
- Ignorance of Bible doctrine makes the prayer of the believer foul up his prayer.
- Ignorance of Bible doctrine cause boasting for carnal believers outside the plan of God.

The apostle Paul commanded the Thessalonians believers (1 Thess. 5:25, 2 Thess. 3:1) to pray for them because they have enough doctrine to do so. The prayers of Christians without Bible doctrine in the souls are futile, fruitless and ineffective. 1 Peter 5:6 mandated us to humble ourselves. The Greek verb humble is tapeinotethe which is in first aorist constative imperative emphasizing urgency to act immediately. We are mandated to humble ourselves because of our natural tendency to be independent from God using our own resources and solutions.

Amos 3:3: "Can two walk together except they be agreed? The context is about Israel invited by God to have blessed communion with Him (intimacy with God) to assure divine protection and provision. God inviting us to walk:

- Walking before God: living a life under continual submission and obedience.
- Walking after God: living a life of conformity to the rules He has laid down.
- Walking with God: living a life than enjoy His presence and intimacy.

We cannot estimate the results of effectual prayer of the righteous men (those with maximum Bible doctrine in their souls) and it a compliment and privilege to be asked to pray for someone.

Logistical blessings are:

- Christian's only provision: the logistical blessings are for believers only.
- Complete provision: from your birth to your departure from earth God has all your needs prepared for allocation.
- Consistent provision: they are all available at all time and for the needs
- Comes from the character of God: God will not contradict or violate His perfect character in anyway like ignoring or denying the believer's needs.
- Caring provision: God designated the logistical blessings for all believers because of His mercy and grace (1 Peter 5:7).

Summary of principles related to divine protection:

- The unbeliever has no defense from the deception and propaganda from the kingdom of darkness because they do not possess Truth of the Word of God in their souls.
- The unbeliever receives his freedom from Satan through faith alone in Christ alone.
- Faith in the Word of Truth brought us forth out of the bondage of the tyrant Satan (James 1:18).
- Our faith in the Word of God after salvation appropriates Christ's strategic victory over Satan at the cross. It is faith in the Word of the Cross, which provides the believer the omnipotence of God that can defeat the enemy (1 Cor. 1:18).
- Faith in the Word of God is the way to victory over our enemies; Satan, the world and the flesh (1 John 5:1-4, 1 John 2:13-14).
- Victory over the enemy is achieved by the believer who submits to the authority of the Word of God and is obedient to the Word of God (James 4:7)
- The Church Age believers have infinitely superior weaponry than the fallen angels. The enemy cannot stand against the Word of Truth. The Word of God serves as spiritual armor and weapon (Ephesians 6:10-18).
- Paul commanded Timothy to get his priorities straight and utilize the logistical grace provision of the Word of God to deal with his adversities that he was facing as a believer in general and as a pastor in particular (2 Tim. 2:1).
- Because the believer possesses superior armor and weaponry than he does, Satan seeks to distract the believer from learning Bible doctrine by wearing them with problems, difficulties, pains, sufferings, stress, sins and details of life (Daniel 7:25)

The Word of God and the Spirit of God are working together to provide the spiritual soldier of Christ Jesus with superior resources to fight spiritual combat. Satan knowing this seeks to blind the believer to this fact. Satan knows that the believer will achieve certain victory over him and his army if the believer utilizes these superior resources of the Word and the Holy Spirit (1 John 4:4).

If we are to develop God's logistical grace support we must learn and apply the Word of God. When the Word of God is applied to the believer's thought process not only protects the believer's soul as spiritual armor but also serves as a spiritual weapon in spiritual combat. So we must conclude that logistical grace support and provision cannot be utilized by the believer unless he applies the Word of God to his very own special set of circumstances.

Nothing can hurt the believers. God in His perfect justice may deliver the saint physically through or from disaster or pains, or His sovereignty may allow death. God will deliver us, not necessarily from suffering but out of the midst of suffering. For a believer with nurturing relationship with God and in constant fellowship with Christ, any place is a safe place. The only safe place in the world is in the center of God's will (Eph. 4:27).

The believer must continue to fortify his soul with Bible doctrine (epignosis) that can protect him from his enemies. Without Bible doctrine, no amount of prayer and fasting can deliver you from your habitual sins, from manufacturing miseries for yourself, or making bad decisions. Aside from the traitor inside every believer, there is a mounting pressure from every side pushing the advancing believers against the wall of defeat.

Hand over every problem or unwanted situation to the Lord [Psalm 55:22]. The battle is of the Lord's. (Exodus 14:14), and He will fight for you while you keep silent. To keep silent in this context means several principles:

- Acknowledge that your crisis is much bigger than your ability and that you can do anything
- Acknowledge that God is bigger than your crisis and that He can do something great
- Entrust everything to God who has a perfect knowledge of every situation.
- Accept the fact that every crisis is a test for your mental attitude
- Continue to be occupied with the Lord from the doctrine in your souls [Psalm 37:4-5].
- Continue to be undisturbed by worry and fear [Isaiah 26:3-4].
- Relax in the Lord and accept the unlimited security of God by filling your soul with Bible doctrine.

