

Recently, a friend of mine was home when she heard her garage door beep with the sound of someone coming in. She assumed it was her father making his daily stop to check in on the day's activities of his daughter and grandchildren. As she rounded the corner of her kitchen to look to what she thought was her dad in the garage, she was surprised to see it was someone else standing in her garage. It was a man dressed in a black hoodie and apparently he had just walked in the garage door and was now snooping around the garage looking for an easy item to steal. In shock, she stood motionless, just watching to see his next move. The only thing that was between her and the perpetrator was an unlocked door. Still she stood motionless, not wanting to bring attention to herself or the fact she was watching this person—this thief—this unwanted intruder—just make his way around the garage as if he'd been there before. Seconds passed into what seemed like hours as she watched and waited to see what he would do. Stiff with fear, the scene was interrupted by a two year olds voice. The intruder hearing the voice then made eye contact with his victim and scurried off and out the door.

My friend was frantic. She contacted the police and then her husband, who both arrived on the scene in mere minutes. The great news is that no one was hurt and nothing was taken. The other side to the story is the fact the thought of someone just walking into your house has caused many, many sleepless nights for this couple. The home is now equipped with a state of the art security system. The scare prompted her take a hand gun carry permit class. Now reader this attempted robbery did not take place in the darkness of the midnight hour. Oh no, reader, it was broad day light—middle of the day attempted robbery. The audacity to break in someone else's house is one thing, but to be brazen enough to do it in broad daylight takes one another entity all it's own.

In our spiritual lives satan has a way of attempting to break and enter into our lives. He seeks to disrupt our lives and cause spiritual division between us and our Creator. I Peter 5:8 tells us he is a "roaring lion seeking whom he may devour." Like the unwanted intruder in my friend's garage, satan is snooping in your lives. He's looking for that easy target and the unlocked heart. He seeks entrance in any way possible. And yes, he will attack in broad daylight if the situation lends itself. We may think we are safely tucked away from his onslaught, only to find ourselves face to face with the temptations he sets before us each day.

Let us take every precaution to defend ourselves. Let us put on the full armor of God and be able to defend ourselves against the fiery darts of our adversary. The scripture tells us that if we draw near to God, He will draw near to us and that satan will flee. Just like the intruder at my good friends house, when confronted with a force greater than his only option is to take flight. Let us, like my friend, stand our ground and refuse to give satan an inch in our lives. Let us properly use the sword, the Word of God, to defend our spiritual lives and we too can watch as the devil and his temptations take flight out of our lives.

Also let us never let our guard down. We should never think we can just let our guard down, because the moment will come again when satan has gathered his courage to strike again, Only this time—we will be ready to take the battle to him. May we always look to God for His strength and courage that we may defend ourselves against the wiles of the devil. May God bless each of you this week of your life here on earth and may we wear the armor and battle daily to broaden the borders of God's kingdom.

In Christ,

Joe Rhodes