

Setting The Guards



The Great wall of China is 4,000 miles long. It can be seen from outer space. It was built in the 200 B.C. to keep invaders from the north out. In 1644 A.D., an invasion took place. The walls were not breached, torn down or destroyed. A general was bribed to open the gate.



The greatest battle that we face is the "Battle for our Minds." Much too often, no one is standing at the post and the gates are left wide open for anyone or anything to enter.

In what ways are our minds, hearts, souls made in the image of God?

1. Our minds shape our personality, our character and our outlook. Even the countenance of your expression is determined by your mind and your heart.
2. God places a responsibility upon us to "Guard" our hearts and minds:

Proverbs 4:23 " _____ over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life."

What are the springs of life from Prov 4:23?

Psalms 141:3 "Set a _____, Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips."

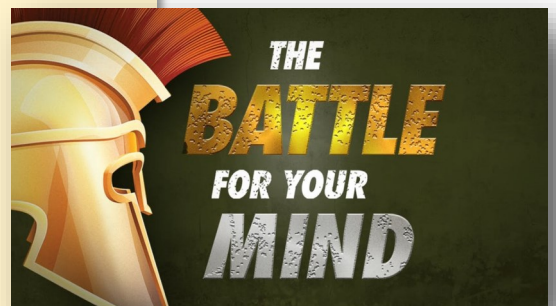
Luke 12:15 "Beware, and be on our guard against every form of _____; for not even when one is affluent does his life consist of possessions."

Acts 20:28 "Be on _____ for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."

1 Timothy 6:20 "Timothy, _____ what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly, empty chatter and the opposing arguments of what is falsely called 'knowledge'"

2 Timothy 1:14 "Protect, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, that _____ which has been entrusted to you."

2 Peter 3:17 "You, therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by _____."



Protecting What is Valuable:



1. There are a number of things we do to physically protect what is valuable to us, from locks on doors, to security systems, to dogs, to being street smart. Now, what do we do spiritually to protect what is valuable to us?

1. Pay attention to the _____ God gives us throughout the Bible

What are some warning words in the Bible?

2. Put on the _____ of God (Eph 6:11-18)

What are two blessings of wearing the armor of God?

3. Use the _____ of God (Phil 4:6-7)

What are some of those resources?

4. _____ your heart up with the word of God (Col 3:15-16)

What will that accomplish?

How do shepherds protect the flock?

How do father's protect their families?

