

## KNOW YOUR ENEMIES

Do you know who your enemies are? As Christians, we not only face physical enemies, but spiritual enemies. Most importantly, understand that the devil is our enemy, and he goes around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. This is noted clearly in **1 Peter 5:8** – *“Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”* The devil’s goal is to turn us away from our faith and to destroy our relationship with God.

Noting this, be mindful in your daily lives, watch for distractions, pray for guidance and protection. Learn of your enemies and provide forgiveness in times of being done wrong. This is incredibly hard for us as Christians, but made perfectly clear in **Matthew 5:44-45** – *“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may prove yourselves to be sons of your Father who is in heaven;”*

We are to remain loving, caring, and forgiving to our enemies, knowing that we have God’s love and protection. This is noted in **Proverbs 16:7** – *“When a person’s ways are pleasing to the Lord, He causes even his enemies to make peace with him.”* God has our backs and will protect us as stated in **Exodus 14:14** – *“The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”*

Be the obedient Christian even though our earthly character turns us towards hate and bitterness towards our enemies. **Proverbs 24:17-18** states: *“Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when they stumble, do not let your heart rejoice, Otherwise, the Lord will see and be displeased”.*

The Bible provides us many verses in scripture that can sooth our hearts in the event of evil from our enemies. Do not fear as God provides us protection and strength in our moments that we face adversity. Be encouraged and turn to scripture as we grow our knowledge and faith, this will get us through the dark times against our enemies.

Amen.