

## Spiritual Virus **Protection For Your Computer**

A Story by Vaughn Jennings

Several days ago, I was having some problems with my computer.

I spent many hours attempting to fix it, and finally decided to pay for professional help,

I contacted a man online.





The man I connected with told me that my firewall was compromised, but he could fix it and set up better virus protection for \$200. I paid the money, and a few days later he called to see how things were working.

Yesterday, during Creative Writing class, my computer began to malfunction. Then a picture of a nude woman flashed on the

I immediately exited the class and rebooted my computer. Suddenly, my phone rang, and my "friend" said I needed to pay him some money. When I told him I was going to report him, he declared,

"I'll report you for displaying porn to minors."

screen.

He had downloaded a program that made it possible for him to take over my computer whenever he wanted. What he didn't know was that my son is good with computers, and my son-in-law is an engineer for a radio station.

Between the two of them they deleted the hacker's programs and fixed my computer.



A computer virus can damage a system, steal data, or crash the entire device. In the same way, spiritual viruses—negative influences, harmful thoughts, or sinful desires—can corrupt our minds, drawing us away from God. Jesus warned that a hacker (Satan) comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. If left unchecked, these spiritual viruses can slowly erode our faith, trust in God, and the purity of our hearts.

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How do these viruses enter?

They often come through the "avenues" of our senses -what we see, hear, smell, or touch when we listen to others. That's why the Bible tells us to guard our hard drive.





We could paraphrase, "Be careful what you are hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you." Satan is always at work, trying to introduce these corruptions into our hearts.

God has given us an antivirus: His Word. By reading, meditating on, and living according to the Bible, we can protect our hearts from these viruses. "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Psalm 119:11). The Bible, like a powerful antivirus program, cleanses, strengthens, and preserves us from the harmful forces that seek to pull us away from God.



Be diligent in guarding your heart, filling your mind with God's Word, and keeping watch over what you allow into your mind and soul. Only then can you stand firm against the viruses threatening our walk with God.



"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." –
Proverbs 4:23





The preceding presentation was produced by VMJ Productions.

