

# Why the Devil Attacks You When You're Getting Closer to God

By Admin | Sermon | March 29, 2026

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There is a dangerous, toxic myth circulating in modern Christianity that completely sets believers up for devastating, heartbreaking failure. We are implicitly taught that the moment we decide to take our faith seriously—when we finally surrender our pride, commit to aggressive prayer, and begin to actively seek the presence of God—our lives will magically become a frictionless path of endless peace and immediate blessings. We assume that spiritual obedience purchases a protective bubble that repels all chaos. But when you actually step out of your spiritual apathy and begin to walk toward the blinding light of the Kingdom, the exact opposite happens. Suddenly, your life erupts into absolute chaos. Your finances take an inexplicable hit. Your marriage experiences sudden, uncharacteristic friction. Your mind is assaulted by a relentless, exhausting barrage of anxiety, and the people you love the most suddenly seem to turn against you. In the face of this overwhelming onslaught, the human ego panics. We retreat into the darkest corners of our minds, engaging in brutal, silent struggles. We pull out our invisible ledgers, frantically trying to figure out what sin we committed to bring this wrath upon ourselves. We build massive walls of emotional distance, convinced that God is punishing us for trying to get closer to Him, and we plunge into a state of profound, suffocating loneliness. We look at the absolute wreckage of our circumstances and the enemy whispers the most lethal lie of all: "It was easier when you weren't trying. You should just go back to sleep."

But this is a catastrophic misunderstanding of the spiritual realm. The sudden explosion of warfare in your life is not a sign that you have done something wrong; it is the absolute, undeniable proof that you are doing something terrifyingly right. You do not experience spiritual resistance when you are walking in the same direction as the devil. You only feel the friction when you turn around and start walking against the current of hell. Two thousand years ago, the Scriptures provided a raw, unapologetic blueprint of spiritual warfare, revealing that the enemy does not waste his heavy artillery on prisoners who are comfortable in their chains. He only attacks the ones who are actively breaking the locks. If this message is already stirring something in your exhausted soul, hit the subscribe button and stay connected to God's Word daily, because we believe that confronting the painful, hidden truth is the only thing that ultimately sets us free. Today, we are going to expose the hidden architecture of spiritual warfare. We will explore seven ego-crushing, profoundly biblical realities about why all of hell breaks loose when you get closer to heaven, and discover the magnificent truth that your current battle is the exact crucible God uses to forge you into an unshakeable weapon of divine authority.

## Number 1: The Threat of the Awakened Soul (Why You Are Suddenly a Target)

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The very first reality you must understand about spiritual warfare is the ruthless economy of the enemy's ammunition. Satan is not omnipresent, and his resources are not infinite. He does not waste his time aggressively attacking believers who are already neutralized by their own apathy. If you are living a compromised, double life, tolerating hidden sins, skipping prayer, and prioritizing the approval of the world over the presence of God, the enemy will leave you entirely alone. Why would he interrupt you? You are no threat to his kingdom. Your human ego is managing your life, you are living in a fortress of emotional distance, and your silent struggles are keeping you completely paralyzed. He is more than happy to let you sleep comfortably in your religious routine.

But the exact second you make the agonizing, beautiful decision to wake up—the moment you fall on your face, tear down your idols, and declare that you want a radical, authentic intimacy with Jesus Christ—you trigger a massive alarm in the unseen realm. You transition from being a harmless, sleeping civilian into an active, lethal threat. The enemy knows that a single, fully surrendered believer, operating in the genuine power of the Holy Spirit, can completely dismantle generational curses, destroy demonic strongholds, and lead hundreds of other captives into freedom.

The sudden attack on your life is not a coincidence; it is a calculated, desperate strike of preemptive spiritual warfare. The devil is terrified of the version of you that is currently being forged. He is terrified of your prayers. He is terrified of the grace that is beginning to flow through your life. You must stop viewing the attack as a punishment from God, and start viewing it as the highest possible compliment from the enemy. He only shoots at what he is terrified of. Your newfound proximity to God has placed a massive target on your back, and the friction you are feeling is simply the absolute proof that you are finally marching in the right direction.

## Number 2: The Strategy of Sabotage (Hitting You at the Threshold)

If you study the timeline of spiritual attacks in the Scriptures, you will notice a terrifying, consistent pattern: the heaviest artillery is almost always deployed right at the threshold of a breakthrough. When the Israelites were finally freed from hundreds of years of Egyptian slavery, they did not march straight into a peaceful paradise. They marched directly to the edge of the Red Sea, only to turn around and see the entire Egyptian army bearing down on them, intent on slaughtering them before they could cross over. The enemy's ultimate strategy is to sabotage you right at the border of your promised land.

When you start getting closer to God, you will inevitably approach thresholds of massive spiritual promotion. God is preparing to elevate your influence, heal your deepest traumas, or release a

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new level of anointing over your family. But right before you step across that line, the enemy will orchestrate a crisis designed to completely break your will. He will hit your finances to make you doubt God's provision. He will trigger a severe conflict in your marriage to drain your emotional capacity. He wants you to look at the raging sea in front of you and the approaching army behind you, and surrender to panic.

The human ego is terrified of the threshold because it requires absolute, free-falling trust. The enemy wants you to engage in a silent struggle of profound loneliness, convinced that the cost of moving forward is simply too high. He wants you to believe the lie that returning to the familiar bondage of Egypt is safer than walking into the unknown freedom of God. You must recognize the sabotage for what it is. The intensity of the attack is a direct, measurable indicator of the magnitude of the blessing that is waiting on the other side. Do not retreat at the threshold. Stand your ground, lift your staff, and watch the waters part.

## Number 3: The Weaponization of Your Past (The Ledger of Condemnation)

As you begin to shed the heavy armor of your human ego and pursue genuine purity, the enemy will launch a psychological attack utilizing his favorite, most devastating weapon: your own history. In Revelation 12, Satan is given a very specific title: "the accuser of our brothers." When he cannot stop you by throwing external chaos into your circumstances, he will pivot and attack the internal sanctuary of your mind. In the quiet, vulnerable hours of the night, he will pull out a meticulously detailed ledger of your worst mistakes, your deepest failures, and your most humiliating sins.

He will project a high-definition highlight reel of your past into your consciousness and whisper the lethal venom of condemnation: "Who do you think you are? Do you really think God would use someone with a track record like yours? You are a hypocrite." The goal of this attack is to crush you under the suffocating weight of profound loneliness and shame. He wants you to build a wall of emotional distance between yourself and the altar, convincing you that you are permanently disqualified from carrying the presence of God.

You must aggressively learn to distinguish between the holy conviction of the Holy Spirit and the demonic condemnation of the enemy. Conviction points you to the cross; condemnation points you to the grave. Conviction says, "You sinned, but the blood of Jesus is enough; come closer." Condemnation says, "You sinned, the blood is not enough; walk away." When the devil brings up your past, he is completely out of new material. You must forcefully declare Romans 8:1 over your numb, exhausted spirit: "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." You must weaponize the grace of God, tearing up the enemy's ledger and reminding him

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that the sins he is using to accuse you were legally, permanently, and violently paid for two thousand years ago on the wood of Calvary.

## Number 4: The Isolation Tactic (Creating Profound Loneliness)

If the enemy cannot stop you with external chaos or internal condemnation, he will attempt to starve you to death through spiritual isolation. As you grow closer to God, your desires, your vocabulary, and your priorities will begin to radically shift. The things that used to entertain you will suddenly feel hollow. The conversations that used to fulfill you will feel toxic. This is the natural, beautiful process of sanctification. But the enemy will twist this holy transition into a devastating weapon of profound loneliness.

He will orchestrate scenarios where you feel completely misunderstood by the people you love the most. Your old friends might mock your newfound devotion. Your family members might label you a religious fanatic. You will find yourself sitting in crowded rooms feeling utterly, terrifyingly alone, fighting silent struggles that no one around you can comprehend. The enemy's goal is to convince you that getting closer to God requires you to become a permanent social outcast, and that the emotional distance you are experiencing is too high a price to pay for your faith.

But you must understand that isolation is a classic predator tactic. A wolf never attacks the herd; it waits for a sheep to wander off, alone and unprotected. The enemy wants you to pull away from your church, abandon your spiritual community, and retreat into a fortress of self-pity. To defeat this tactic, you must violently resist the urge to hide. You must press deeper into authentic, bleeding vulnerability with other mature believers. You must realize that the loss of relationships built on the shifting sand of the world is simply making room for relationships built on the unshakeable bedrock of the Kingdom. Do not let the pain of the transition trick you into walking back into the dark.

## Number 5: The Distraction of Chaos (The Exhaustion of the Hustle)

Sometimes the devil's most effective attack is not a catastrophic tragedy; it is simply a relentless, exhausting barrage of minor inconveniences designed to bleed your spiritual energy dry. As you commit to spending more time in prayer and the Word, suddenly, everything in your life will start demanding your immediate attention. The car breaks down. An unexpected deadline drops at work. A minor conflict erupts with a neighbor. The schedule becomes absolutely, terrifyingly suffocating.

This is the weaponization of chaos. The enemy knows that he does not need to convince you to publicly deny Jesus Christ; he just needs to keep you so incredibly busy managing the fires of your

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daily life that you simply do not have the time or the energy to sit at the feet of the Father. He wants to trigger the "Martha Syndrome" in your soul, causing you to hustle, perform, and exhaust yourself with good things, so that you neglect the ultimate, necessary thing. He wants you to fight silent struggles with burnout, mistaking your frantic religious activity for genuine spiritual intimacy.

You must become ruthlessly disciplined with your focus. You must learn the agonizing, beautiful art of saying "No" to the chaos. You have to recognize that the sudden influx of urgent demands is a calculated distraction. You must draw a line in the sand, drop the heavy armor of your human ego, and fiercely protect your time in the presence of God. When the enemy tries to drown you in a sea of distractions, you must drop an anchor into the profound, quiet waters of the Holy Spirit, refusing to sacrifice your peace on the altar of the world's false urgency.

## Number 6: The Friendly Fire (Attacks from Inside the Camp)

The most agonizing, heart-shattering attacks you will ever face on your journey closer to God will not come from the secular world; they will come from inside the house. When the enemy wants to inflict maximum psychological and emotional damage, he does not use an atheist or a stranger; he uses a fellow believer, a trusted mentor, or a family member. As you pursue a deeper level of consecration, you will often trigger the dormant insecurities and religious pride of the people around you who are comfortable in their lukewarm state.

You will experience friendly fire. You will be betrayed by people who sing the same worship songs as you. You will be harshly judged by the very people you expected to support you. This inflicts an agonizing wound on the human ego, causing a catastrophic level of profound loneliness. The enemy wants you to look at the hypocrisy, the betrayal, and the emotional distance of the church, and use it as a justified excuse to walk away from God entirely. He wants you to conflate the failure of broken human beings with the perfect character of Jesus Christ.

To survive the friendly fire, you must perform the excruciating, ego-crushing act of unconditional forgiveness. You must realize that "we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness" (Ephesians 6:12). The person who hurt you is not your ultimate enemy; they are simply a pawn being manipulated by the true enemy to destroy your faith. You must take the massive, heavy ledger of your justified grievances, lay it on the altar, and release the offender to the grace of God. Do not let the toxic venom of bitterness block the flow of the Holy Spirit in your life. Keep your eyes locked entirely on the King, and refuse to let the failures of the camp distract you from the glory of the crown.

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## Number 7: The Sovereignty of the Test (How God Uses the Attack)

The ultimate, mind-bending reality of spiritual warfare is that Satan is not a free agent. He is a created being on a leash, and he cannot touch a single hair on your head without the explicit, sovereign permission of Almighty God. This means that if you are under attack right now, God has allowed it. He has not caused the evil, but He has permitted the friction. Why? Because God is a Master Blacksmith, and He is using the hammer of the enemy's attack against the anvil of your circumstances to forge you into an indestructible weapon.

God allows the devil to attack you when you get closer to Him because the attack is the exact crucible required to burn away the remaining impurities of your human ego. The fire exposes the hidden idols you still cling to. The profound loneliness exposes your false dependencies. The silent struggles test the absolute limits of your endurance, forcing you to discover that when you have absolutely nothing left, the grace of Jesus Christ is still overwhelmingly sufficient. God is using the very warfare designed to destroy you as the ultimate training ground for your destiny.

When you understand the sovereignty of the test, it completely changes your posture. You stop acting like a helpless victim and start acting like a victorious heir. You realize that the attack is not a sign of your defeat; it is the agonizing, bloody, and glorious birth of a militant, defiant faith. You are learning how to wield the sword of the Spirit. You are learning how to hold the line in the dark. The enemy is unknowingly participating in his own destruction, because every time he strikes you, he is simply making you sharper, stronger, and more terrifyingly lethal to the kingdom of darkness.

## Conclusion

We have stared directly into the violent, invisible reality of the spiritual war that surrounds our pursuit of God. We have exposed the terrifying threat of the awakened soul, the sabotage at the threshold, and the lethal weaponization of our past. We have confronted the enemy's tactics of profound isolation, the exhausting distraction of chaos, the agonizing pain of friendly fire, and the glorious, unshakeable reality of the sovereignty of the test.

If you are reading this right now and you are covered in the dust of the battle, exhausted, bleeding, and fighting silent struggles in the dark, hear the voice of the Holy Spirit roaring over your circumstances. You are not losing. You have not been abandoned. The sheer violence of the resistance you are facing is the absolute proof of the magnitude of the calling on your life.

Do not drop your sword. Do not retreat into the fortress of your pride. Stand your ground, anchor your exhausted soul to the finished work of Jesus Christ, and fight back. The King of Glory is

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fighting with you, and the victory is already permanently, eternally secure. Make sure to follow and subscribe, like this video, and share it with someone who is surviving the battle today. We will see you next time as we uncover another powerful truth from God's Word.