## Dealing with satanic destructions and traps as a believer (Part 1 – Dealing with the spirit of fear)

A trap is the hidden trick of an enemy that he sets to distract us and take us captive so we can be his prisoner. Satan wants to cause something else to become our higher priority other than God' Himself and His Word. The Bible says in 1 Peter 5:8, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." John 10:10(b) says that he (satan) comes to steal, to kill and to destroy...

Ladies and gentlemen, the devil is real, and if we ignore his existence, we are ignoring so much of what happens in our life. We become distracted by our circumstances or other people and become mad at them at times for years other than look to the forces at work behind the scenes. People are not your enemies, the devil is. We fight our loved ones, friends, ourselves, and even God when we need to be fighting the real culprit: the enemy.

There is a war waging in the spiritual realm every day, and every second and that is why Apostle Paul said in Ephesians 6:12; "our fight is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places." On the same chapter, apostle Paul goes on to encourage us to put on the full armor of God, so that we can stand firm against the enemy and his weapons. That is one of the reasons ladies and gentlemen, we must live our lives from inside out. When we live our lives from inside out, we can pick thinks by the Spirit of God in the spiritual realm that will help us deal with things in the natural realm.

Often, Satan uses distraction and difficulty situations to take our eyes off of Jesus. In Mark 6:45-56, we see that even the disciples were easily distracted and oblivious to the miracles that Jesus was performing right in front of their eyes. They were too busy and overwhelmed by the storm that they could not even think or consider all the miracles they had seen Jesus

perform. Satan used the storm to distract them until they forgot everything, they had seen Jesus do prior.

In order to overcome Satan's distractions, we must position our hearts to keep our eyes on Jesus even in the biggest of storms. One way to stay focused on Jesus is to constantly remind ourselves of what he has done for us in the past and the places He has brought us from. **Hebrews 13:5** says, "Let your conduct be without covetousness; *be* content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

The 5 major distractions and traps that satan uses to keep Christian believers from staying focus in their walk with God and calling

- 1) Fear
- 2) Unbelief
- 3) Anxiety
- 4) Satanic Lies
- 5) Despair

## 1) Fear:

Fear is opposite of faith. There are times when fear can paralyze the bravest of hearts. When we perceive threat to our well-being or an obstacle standing between us and our goals, we often fear that the plan for our lives is in serious jeopardy and that it will NOT materialize.

## The 12 spies and the promise land:

Numbers 14:8-9 says, "If the LORD is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them."

When the Israelite spies set out on a reconnaissance mission to assess the land of Canaan, they had no idea what they would encounter. It was a great honor to be chosen by Moses for such an assignment, and Moses selected the top leaders from each of the twelve tribes for the job.

Moses and Aaron (Moses' brother) gathered the people to hear the news. The spies confirmed that the Promised Land was indeed everything God said it was — but they focused on what they saw as the obstacles to their taking the land, namely the giants who lived there. They gave an accurate report, but they failed to give the whole story. Only Joshua and Caleb spoke the truth.

These two faithful men recounted what they had seen and then reiterated, in their own words, the promises of God that had brought them to this point: "If the LORD is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them" (Numbers 14:8 – 9). Joshua and Caleb lived to see the Promised Land, but only because they focused on the goal God had laid out for them and not on the obstacles standing in the way.