



THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

Unmasking Satan: "Huli Ka" (Part 7 of 8)

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Continuing on the discussion of Satan's traps, we are reminded that the enemy will not stop until our last breath to tempt us away from God. Decision has to be made: Will we follow God or Satan? Happiness over eternal misery? Choosing God and to be faithful to Him, includes being watchful and vigilant against Satan's tricks and traps.

(Satan's traps continued...)

2.6 Trap of our natural desires. Our natural desires exist to identify good things in life, which ultimately leads to God; Imbalance of desires leads us to sin. The 9th & 10th commandment forbid covetousness due to uncontrolled desires. How do we control desires?

2.6.1 We ask God's help.

2.6.2 Read God's word for strength.

2.6.3 Have a spiritual partner or counselors.

2.7 Trap of death. Living life of sin is a death trap. Reconcile to God before it's too late. Jesus wants heart conversion (Mk. 7:21) and we avoid inside and outside evil influence (1Cor. 15:16).

2.8 Trap of busyness. Consistently review our life's priorities, if God is still on top of the list. Avoid over-commitment and petty things always grab more time than praying with God.

2.9 Trap of fatigue. Losing our physical strength slows down our prayer life, and in turn gives Satan to set traps to us without hindrance.

2.10 Traps to our children. Children are vulnerable to vices, sexual perversions, and other immorality due to exposure of very accessible media today. Parents are tasked by God to guard and teach their children.

2.11 Traps in our mind. The mind is the channel of the Holy Spirit, but it can be blocked by the foolish wanderings instigated by Satan. Be vigilant and sober against the enemy (1Pt. 5:7), else we will be blinded to the glory of God (2Cor. 4:4).

Conclusion:

In this part 7 of the 8-part series, we continue to educate ourselves against Satan's subtle traps. Christians must rely to God for protection. Problems arose when we rely on our own strength, and considering these traps as a mere natural event. The feeling of self-sufficiency pushed us away from God, not close to Him. In humility, we set our minds to the interests of God (Mt. 16: 22-23), and Satan can never set traps for us easily.

Reflection:

1. What Satan's traps are set-up to you or your family right now?
2. Who are your prayer partners or counselors?
3. Why do you think that people are easily falling into Satan's traps in today's society?

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