



Isaiah 60:1-2 'Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you.

WHO IS OUR ENEMY?

THE DEVIL is our direct enemy

THE WORLD an indirect enemy

(1 John 5:19) we know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

(Ephesians 6:12) for our struggle 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 realms.

THE FLESH, OUR SINFUL NATURE an indirect enemy

I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do – this I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me/gives me the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord! (Romans 7)

(1 John 3:8) the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

WHAT POSITION DO WE TAKE IN REGARD TO THE ENEMY?

Knowingly or unknowingly an ally with the enemy?

A Christian fearful of taking a stand against the enemy?

A Christian actively involved in resistance to the enemy?



KNOWINGLY OR UNKNOWINGLY AM I AN ALLY WITH THE ENEMY?

(1 Tim 1:13-14) I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus

(John 8:12) I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

(Colossians 1:13-14) (God) has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

(Ephesians 2:8) it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

(1 John 5:3-5) everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God

AM I A CHRISTIAN BUT FEARFUL OF TAKING A STAND AGAINST THE ENEMY?

(Matthew 5:14-17) You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

(John 1:5) the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.



A CHRISTIAN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN RESISTANCE TO THE ENEMY?



HOW CAN WE LIVE FOR GOD IN RESISTANCE TO THE DARKNESS?

Live a life of love, loving God above all and loving others.

Live as Jesus did in this world, obedient to His Father and full of the Holy Spirit.

Live by the truth of the Word of God.

Live covered by the righteousness of Jesus.

Live ready to tell others the good news about Jesus wherever we go.

Live trusting that God will bring to nothing all the enemy throws at us.

Live assured we are God's children because of the price Jesus paid for us.

Live listening for specific offensive and defensive words from the Holy Spirit and act upon them.

Live prayerfully as the Holy Spirit guides and empowers us.

Live in submission, yielded and close to God, so you can resist the devil.

Live in the victory Christ Jesus has secured,

because we are more than conquerors through Christ,

if God is for us who can be against us

and Jesus in us is greater than the devil and all his dominion.