

October 2011

## Which Strategy Will You Choose?

**Stră'tэг v** *def:* 1. the art or science of the planning and conduct of a war; 2. a plan, method, or series of maneuvers or stratagems for obtaining a specific goal or result.

Last week we heard the testimony of a woman who, 7 years earlier, had been the only survivor of a car wreck and suffered back pain ever since. She reported that God completely healed her *after* realizing that she had been believing the lie that **she deserved to suffer** in light of three others dying!

Through hearing testimonies like this and a wide assortment of others, God is highlighting a cunning and *avoidable* strategy of our powerless and defeated enemy. (Heb. 2:14)

Two opposing strategies are evident:

### **God's Strategy: Freedom and Life**

2000+ yrs ago Jesus Christ paid once and for all, in full, for everyone's complete and undeserved redemption. Father decided that this provision could be 'cashed in on' at any future date, with no reduction of benefits.

"He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our guilt and iniquities; the **chastisement [needful to obtain] peace and well-being [in every area] for us was upon Him**, and with the stripes [that wounded Him] we are healed and made whole." (Is 53:5)

### **Enemy's Strategy: Kill, Steal and Destroy**

Tactic #1: obscure and complicate the benefit package Jesus purchased when He took the curse upon Himself.

Tactic #2: if someone discovers the Good News, convince them they are unworthy of all of the benefits, with the exception of the possibility of going to heaven when they die.

The enemy is successful if or where we agree with the lies he suggests.

**It is important to remember that his fiery darts (thoughts) are sent in first person pronoun so you hear it and think it must be your own thoughts.** (Eph 6:16)

*Cont. on pg. 2*



## Harmsworth News!

**-We've hosted many new "clients"/guests this past month, as well as many "old" friends. We love them all!**

**-Counseling Training School in Bellingham is still ongoing for Neil & Kathy and several others from our area. We carpool for the hour and half drive up there every other week, which is a great time of fellowship, and the classes have been outstanding. Janet Robinson, of "Awake & Arise" Counseling ministry, is a gifted teacher.**



**-Our house will be off the market again on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, but we're still on the lookout for a new home base in the area.**

**-Neil & Kathy will be traveling south to Redding, Calif. soon for the "Leaders Advance". This is an annual event hosted by Bethel Church, for pastors and leaders of ministries from all over the world. This year we're taking Van & Christian Bowling, both of whom serve in church pastoral and leadership positions as well as launching their own non-profit ministry called, "Mighty to Save". We're anticipating a powerful time of worship, encouragement, empowering and networking with other leaders.**

Cont. from pg.1

Examples:

“I don't deserve *the joy of the Lord* because of all of the suffering on the planet.”

“God forgave me but if I forgive myself it will mean \_\_\_\_\_ wasn't important.”

“I deserve to suffer physically because I lived through it but they all died.”

“I need to pay/suffer for my sinful past.”

‘My misery honors \_\_\_\_\_ (someone who suffered or some misfortune).’

“If I am well and happy they'll expect more from me.”

**Ways to expose lies: (take thoughts captive)**

1. add “in Jesus name” to the end of the thought and see how that rings. “I am unworthy, in Jesus name”??!

2. Take your thought to the Lord and say, “This feels true to *my* heart, but what do *You* say, is it the truth?”

God's strategy is a gracious **invitation**. Converting it into a *personal* reality requires agreement of will.

If our will is set against His strategy, Almighty God chooses not to set us free or heal us; He will not violate our free will. Case in point: remember the woman who survived the car accident: What kept her from restoration for 7 yrs? Unknowingly, she was ‘stuck’, holding onto the lie that she deserved to suffer and thereby inhibiting the Lord's gift of freedom and healing.

Our mission is, “to bind up and heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the [physical and spiritual] captives...that they may be called oaks of righteousness...that He may be glorified.” Is. 61:1



Josh brought Sarah, his soon-to-be-wife, home for a whirlwind visit to introduce her to all the relatives! Whew! She's quite a trooper! We spent time in Canada with the Harmsworth clan and few more days around here meeting the Carter relations. We are all very excited to welcome her into our lives and hearts. The wedding day has been moved up to Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> because they were unable to get the venue they wanted in January. So, we'll all be heading to Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 8 weeks!

**Issues for Prayers:**

-Our upcoming trip to Redding (Oct 31-Nov 4) with the Bowlings.

-Josh & Sarah as they prepare for the 'Big Day'. We're asking the Lord for increased awareness of His presence and His voice as they lean on Him for the myriad of decisions to be made. They're specially in need of God's direction - navigating through this next season will be an exciting time for them - Thanks for your prayers!



**Send us a note!**

at our mailing address (see right)  
e-mail: [neil@noblemaritime.com](mailto:neil@noblemaritime.com)  
home phone: 360-682-6230  
cell : 360-774-1180 (Neil)  
360-301-3937 (Kathy)

**Blessings to you from Capt. Neil & Crew**



On the beach with friends Wayne and Eleanor Snyder



**Tax-deductible donations may be made to:**

Noble Maritime Ministries  
PO Box 1224  
Anacortes, WA 98221

or with PayPal online at [www.noblemaritime.com](http://www.noblemaritime.com)

