

## Mind Fields

by Darrell B. Harrison

It has been said that “*a mind is a terrible thing to waste.*”

I think it's safe to say that we would all agree with that, would we not? You would be hard-pressed to find a more widely-accepted truism in the world today. From our earliest days on this earth we are taught to use our mind to rightly apply the lessons we've learned, situations we've observed, and circumstances we've experienced, in an effort to make the best decisions for ourselves and those who matter most to us.

That said, however, it might surprise you to know that you and I are not alone in our belief in the aforementioned axiom and that we are not unique in our esteem for the capacity of the human mind to influence and determine the direction for our life. In fact, quite the contrary is true. There is another who has just as deep convictions about how contemptible it is to squander our God-given gift of judgment and discernment, and that person is none other than the devil himself.

You see, my brother, whether you realize it or not, as men of God, you and I are involved in a war and that war is incessant. It is a spiritual war which, not unlike other wars, takes place on a battlefield, only the terrain of this particular battlefield is not composed of dirt and clay; it is the battlefield of our mind.

Satan, ('Satanas' in the Greek), whose name literally means 'adversary', is a master tactician, adroit at placing along our path destructive “devices” – sinful thoughts and desires – intentionally designed to disable us spiritually and, consequently, decimate our testimony for Christ. As Satan plants these devices into our mind – and as we, in turn, fail to recognize them for what they truly are – we put not only ourselves, but our marriages, our families and our reputations at risk.

**2 Corinthians 2:11** reads, “...so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.” (NASB)

If nothing else, the above verse makes two facts abundantly clear to us: 1) the primary objective of Satan's schemes is to take advantage of our ignorance, and 2) God's people are not to be ignorant of fact number one.

Think about that for a moment.

Notwithstanding the deadly components that actually comprise a landmine, the thing that makes them so dangerous to begin with is that they're inconspicuous, hidden from view, disguised, and as such, the devil would like nothing more than for you and me to go tip-toeing around these mind fields in complete ignorance, thinking we can navigate in our own strength the temptations, distractions and worldly desires he's set in our path. And such is the core of Satan's schemes and plans for each of us.

The Christian life is a life of continual warfare, my brother. Don't you ever forget that.