

The Strategy of Isolation

I Peter 5:8

Be alert and of sober mind.
Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.



Isaiah 40:11



He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

John 10:14-15



I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

John 10:27

My sheep hear My voice. I know them
and they follow Me.





The Sheep are...

Dearly Loved.

The Sheep are...

Defenseless.



The Enemy is...



Relentless.

Strategy of Isolation

Satan isn't out to maim, or paw us around: he is out to destroy our walk with God. To crush our faith. To make us totally ineffective.



Not physical isolation, because a person may be in the middle of a crowd and still feel they are all alone.

Isolation is a **disconnectedness** either from God or from someone who knows what is 'really' going on inside our heart.

Strategy of Isolation

A person can feel isolated from God's grace because of

- lack of connecting with people who communicate grace
- personal shame
- being removed from consistent interaction with God's truth
- times of transition

At that point, Satan moves in to destroy on four fronts.



1. through accusations

These are usually "taped messages" that we hear in our minds after there has been an incident or time of defeat.

Satan accuses us to God night and day. He is relentless in trying to take us down with our guilt and shame.



2. through destructive patterns.

Dealing with "a sin" would be much easier than dealing with a bondage to a particular area. When we feel isolated, and the lie comes "I can't go back to God about this AGAIN" then what is the only thing left to turn to? The destructive pattern that put us in that position in the first place.

Isolation from grace feeds destructive choices.



3. through hopelessness.

When we feel isolated, we lose sight of the fact that LOTS of others are going through or have gone through the same battles that we are going through. We lose sight of the fact that we are in process, and not at the final product. We feel, "This will never change. My life will never be any different. It will continue in this pattern just like it has for the last _____ years."



4. through false promises.

There is an ever elusive promise we hear, "If I could just ____ (fill in the blank with an activity) pray more/be more devoted in reading/share with others/give to those in need/etc.–then I could rid myself of this bondage I find around my neck. Then I would know that all is right between me and God. I'm not working hard enough. I'm not keeping my part of the bargain."



The Security is...



Connection.

My sheep hear my voice and I know them and they follow Me.
John 10:27

The Sheep are...

Dearly Loved.

Defenseless.



The Enemy is...



Relentless.

The Security is...



Connection.

Confession.