

Cyber Attack

It happens when you least expect it. Someone who doesn't even know or care about you launches an attack. It comes in unannounced and when you are not looking. The attack is targeted at a weakness in your operating system. Even with good intentions, you may have allowed something in that looked appealing but then it became vicious as it turned on you. Once it makes it way in, it replicates itself, attacking healthy sectors of your system. Your system initially slows down but eventually grounds to a halt. You can no longer operate. All the good work you did, all the data being stored is now useless.

You are probably thinking I am talking about the computer system at your desk at work or home. Most of us have experienced a computer virus and may have even had to replace the entire computer or at least had to re-format the entire disk. You may have tricked by a seemingly harmless program that turned out to launch the virus.



I am not talking about the computer virus sent to you by an unseen hacker. I am referring to the attacks of Satan, who looks for our vulnerability and attacks our weakest point. He uses every deceptive trick available to him to make the temptation look inviting. Once it becomes part of you it acts as a Trojan horse, hitting you when your defenses are down. You initially rationalize why everything is still OK but you start slowing down as you try to cover up the mess. You lie to throw others off. Then, everything falls apart and you are done. All the good you have done is down the drain. What you know becomes irrelevant because of whom you no longer know.

So, how do you keep the attacks away? In the computer world there are several solutions that work together to keep you safe. You need the best anti-virus program there is and you need to keep updating it to handle today's viruses. And, we need to avoid clicking on something that makes our minds wander and tests the strength of our faith. So, our computer is safe; what about us?

In our daily lives we need to follow the perfect teachings of Jesus Christ. We need to live by the 10 Commandments – all of them. They are the anti-virus program of our lives. We need to keep updating our knowledge base by continuing to read the Bible daily, attending Sunday School and Bible study classes. They both motivate and inform us to be ready for Satan's attacks. And we need to resist the temptation that put us to the test. Humans are weak when going one-on-one with Satan. *"Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."* That is the best advice available.

No matter how good your antivirus software is, any unprotected computer is immediately at risk the moment you turn off that protection. An unprotected mind will be at risk the moment you let down your guard. Be spiritually strong but don't put yourself to the test. Know what the Lord says is the right thing to do and keep strong in the faith.

Scripture: Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you (James 4:7)

Question: How do you resist temptations that would try to taunt and trick you into letting your guard down?

Prayer: Lord. We face temptations every day. Help us to avoid tempting situations and instead, rely on your teachings to show us what you want us to do.