

SHOULD YOU KEEP YOUR ENEMIES CLOSE?

By: Fountain Hendricks

Genesis Chapter 2 and 3

Have you ever heard of the phrase, "*keep your friends close but your enemies closer?*" Most people who have heard of this phrase believe it. However, keeping your enemies close can do more harm than good.

Keeping your enemies close means that your secrets are accessible to those who desire to expose them. It means that your heart is vulnerable to be broken by those who want to control your emotions. It means that your life can possibly be hindered or destroyed by those who want the worse for you.

Many people believe that keeping your enemies close will help you to see what they are doing. This is partially true.

You may be able to see what they're doing. However, the **WORST** thing you can do is give **ACCESS** to your enemies.

Enemies cannot destroy what is not in their possession. They cannot hurt what is not near them. They cannot damage what is not in their proximity. Despite what people may promote, it is **NOT** good for your enemies to be close to you.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN ENEMIES GET CLOSE?

God showed us this lesson in the beginning of creation. Adam and Eve fell from Kingdom dominion because Adam **ALLOWED** the devil to get close to Eve. The devil was always swarming around the garden of Eden. He was always lurking around seeking for an opportunity to create destruction.

However, when he was able to get **CLOSE** to Eve, opportunity revealed itself. Before then, nothing happened. Adam enjoyed the goodness of God's peace. He was encamped with the abundance of God's prosperity. He was filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.

When the devil was able to invade the proximity of Eve, everything changed for the worse. Adam lost dominion over the earth. He was no longer the beneficiary of God's prosperity.

His life became troubled. There was a complete down spiral because the enemy was able to influence Eve to disobey God because the devil had her ear. Please reference Genesis 2:4 -17 and Genesis 3:1-19.

When your enemies have become close enough to influence your thoughts, touch your resources, speak to your followers and touch your heart you are in danger. This is how enemies prosper. John 10:10 tells us that the

enemy comes to steal, kill and destroy. All of these attributes are usually done in **CLOSE PROXIMITY**.

The enemy cannot prosper against you if there is **DISTANCE** between you and him. People who are jealous of you are your enemies. People who hate you are your enemies. People who are against the God you serve are your enemies. People who are against your God given purpose, assignment and mission are your enemies.

When you recognize these individuals keep them at a **DISTANCE**. Love yourself enough to protect yourself from bad company. 1st Corinthians 15:33 says, "*Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.*"

If you allow the enemy to invade your space **EXPECT** for things to go wrong. Nothing good happens when bad, negative or troubled people are involved. You should not keep your enemies close to you. They should be faraway where you can see them but cannot touch them.

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