

ESSENTIAL CHRISTIAN ATTITUDES, PART 2: WATCHFULNESS
(1 Peter 5:8-9)

- I. The Urgent DUTY (1 Pet. 5:8a)
 - A. We must be SELF-CONTROLLED (cf. 1:13; 4:7)
 - B. We must remain ALERT

- II. The Immediate DANGER (1 Pet. 5:8b)
 - A. We have a REAL ENEMY
 - 1. He is described as an ADVERSARY
 - 2. He is a PERSONAL enemy
 - 3. He is YOUR enemy
 - 4. His primary weapon is SLANDER
 - B. He is DETERMINED to DESTROY us
 - 1. He is "like a ROARING LION"
 - 2. He is CONSTANTLY on the PROWL
 - 3. He is SEARCHING for someone to DEVOUR

III. The Appropriate RESPONSE (1 Pet. 5:9a)

A. We must STAND AGAINST him

B. We must be STEADFAST in FAITH

1. This may mean we must remain FAITHFUL to CHRIST

2. Probably means we must be firmly GROUNDED upon true biblical DOCTRINE

IV. The Comforting ENCOURAGEMENT (1 Pet. 5:9b)

A. Suffering has a PURPOSE

1. We are not just waiting for suffering to STOP

2. We are anticipating that suffering will ACHIEVE its GOAL

B. Suffering involves "the BROTHERHOOD"

1. We are PART of that COMMUNITY

2. It is a SUFFERING COMMUNITY

3. Suffering is inseparable from LIFE while "IN THE WORLD"