

Devil Distancing

Do you and I have a “history?” Are there people who love you? Are there people who depend on you? How have we influenced the people who surround us every day?

“Madame Marie Curie holds her place in history as a pioneer in the study of radioactivity. In 1903, she was the very first woman to win the

Nobel Prize, capturing the honor in physics. Then, in 1911, she received a *second* Nobel Prize, this one in chemistry. She has influenced many people by her life! However, such a wonderful contribution did not come without tremendous sacrifice. Madame Curie died of leukemia caused by prolonged exposure to radioactive materials.” Even today, scholars who wish to read her handwritten journals and lab papers must wear protective gear because of the radioactivity! Talk about a lasting influence...

No one today would approach radioactive material without protection. But many seem unconcerned about exposure to the dangers of sin. Sin is insidious. Sin is pervasive. And sin kills with more certainty than radioactivity! The Word of God in Psalm 1 warns us against sinful attitudes, speech, and behavior. Obedience to God’s law is a *spiritual* safeguard from sin and the deadly consequences. The Psalmist also wrote to the Lord, saying, “I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you” (Psalm 119:11).

Madame Curie didn’t actually know about the serious health dangers of prolonged exposure to radioactivity. And yet, God has given us ample warning about the dangers of sin. Let’s apply daily what we read in His life-giving book.” - This modified article was written by Dennis Fisher from “*Together With God.*”

Today, we are experiencing “social distancing” during this COVID-19 pandemic. It is quite sad that we may have to take these precautions to be “safe” for a time. And yet, there’s someone we actually should be distancing ourselves from—and NOT just socially or temporarily—that’s the devil!

When scientists wanted to read Madame Curie’s original works, they had to take precautions. Here are some precautions that we can utilize to stay away from Satan.

(1) Stay away from his activities. If you know an activity is sinful, stay away. If you know sinful activities happen where you might be, stay away from the sinful activity. If there is potential for sinful activities to happen, be aware of it and keep your distance. There is no place we can go that does not have some sinful activity. Yes, you read that right. We are to use our God-given common sense. We need to keep our distance from sin. That’s a forever challenge of life.

(2) The scientists had to wear protective gear. We wear the armor of God. In Ephesians 6, we are to wear the whole armor of God at all times. We are to put on the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of the gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, and the sword which is the word of God. After you have put on the armor of God, the next step in preparation in defeating the devil is to pray. Pray to be ready to fight the devil and for opportunities to share the gospel with others. Our constant and consistent communication with God keeps us away from the devil. Filling our mind with the “things” of God will give us no room for the devil to scheme his way in.

(3) Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you (James 4:7). Run the opposite direction, turn your eyes, ears, nose, hands, head, and heart away from sin and towards God. Kneel in prayer and seek His assistance.

(4) Study God’s word to *know* what sin actually is. Be diligent! “The Bible will tell you what is wrong before you have done it!” - Dwight Moody. Many scientists wanted to study the original works of Madame Curie because they wanted to know what instructions and information she provided. Go to the Word of God...

Psalm 119:1 says “Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord.”

Let’s keep our distance from the devil so we can be blameless in the sight of God.

Bday/Anniv Lunch: ...when **we** can!

Bible Study: Consider your study of God’s Word (see **2 Timothy 2:15**) Make time to learn Scripture today...

NMCCH: collecting aluminum foil and kitchen trash bags (pick up is later...)

—THANK YOU for reading!