

Introduction:

A. Satan's Strategy Exposed

1. **Distortion** - He twists God's truth to serve his evil agenda
 - a. He attempted to distort the **hierarchy of heaven** (Isaiah 14:12-15)
 - b. He successfully distorted **God's original command** to Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1)
 - c. He attempted to distort the **order of worship with Jesus** (Matthew 4:9-10)
 - d. He attempted to distort **God's purpose** in the anxiety early Christians faced (1Peter 5:7; 4:12-13)
2. **Diversion** - He uses anxiety to sidetrack our attention from God and his goodness (1 Peter 5:7-8)
 - a. The **cause** of anxiety in vs.7
 - b. The **use** of anxiety as Satan's diversionary tactic vs 6-7
3. **Isolation** - He separates his target from the source of support vs.8
 - a. Isolation is a **military strategy** employed in warfare
 - b. Isolation is a **gaming strategy** employed by lions in catching their prey

B. God's Solution Disclosed

1. **Perspective** - Knowing God's view in the anxiety we face
 - a. It's a **test** - (1 Peter 4:12-13)
 - b. It's an **opportunity** to experience God's grace - (5:10-11; 1:6)
 - c. It's **temporary** but with eternal glory - (5: 10-11; 4: 12-13)
2. Be **Proactive** - Watch and adjust your focus (5:8)
3. Be **Active** - Partner with God and do our part in defeating Satan (5:7-11)
 - a. Be under **God's** influence - Be alert (v. 8)
 - b. Do a spiritual **fast break** - Cast your anxiety on Him (v. 7)
 - c. Take a **stand** and oppose him in Jesus name - Resist Him (v. 8 - 9)
 - d. Remember! - Get **connected** with God and his people vs. (9 -11)

Conclusion:

1. Describe your feeling after learning of the Las Vegas shooting – the worst mass shooting to date in U.S history. Has it ever crossed your mind of Satan's connection in this devilish act?
2. Read 1Peter 5: 6-11. Which of the three strategies of Satan discussed in last Sunday's message connected to you the most? Please elaborate.
3. Which of the three tactics of Satan exposed is trickiest in your opinion? Why?
4. How can life's legitimate concerns like family, job, health, study, relationships, finances, pleasure and the like become Satan's diversionary tactic and harm us?
5. Of the three solutions disclosed in fighting and defeating Satan in 1Pet. 5:6-11, which of these did you find most effective in defeating Satan? Share.
6. Satan loves to use the tactic of isolation in attacking his prey, how did getting "connected with God" through the Word, worship and Life Groups make a difference in remaining strong?
7. In a scale of 1- 10, how will you rate your spiritual, marriage and family focus today? Anything that needs re focusing? 1 Peter 5: 6-7, 4: 12-13? Pray for one another.

PRAY!