



# BROAD STREET

## BANNER

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*From Where I Sit . . .*

### “Guarded By The Power Of God”

In recent weeks we studied “Sanctification” and noted that a Christian is “Set Apart” or “Consecrated” by the Spirit of God to pursue a life of holiness. This does not mean being a Christian is easy. The world in which we sojourn does not encourage Godly living. As evidence of this we merely have to note the brazen and forward messages coming forth in television commercials these days – not to even mention the strong messages within the actual programs and movies. There are powerful forces that are bent on our spiritual destruction, but the significance of being a Christian includes help that others do not have. We are **“kept by the power of God through faith...”** There is help from our Father in heaven, who is concerned for the child that now belongs to Him – His own special protection is available to those who remain faithful to Him.

Peter writes of this protection in **1 Peter 1:3-5 (KJV)** **<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.**

Not only does Peter affirm that we are **“kept by the power of God,”** he refers to how we are kept by the power of God – **“through faith.”** He employs a military term meaning “to mount guard as a sentinel; figuratively, to hem in, protect” (Strong’s). Therefore we can rightly say that a Christian is “guarded by the power Of God!” God is our victory. Our confidence comes from God’s power, not our own - **Philippians 4:13 (KJV)** **<sup>13</sup>I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.**

He provides power that is greater than Satan - **Ephesians 3:16 (KJV)** **<sup>16</sup>“That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man.”** Yes, it is God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ (**1Cor. 15:57**). By His grace we are **“Guarded By The Power Of God” (1 Pet. 1:5)**. But that such grace might not be received in vain (**2Co 6:1**) we need to remember our responsibility to remain faithful.

The Bible teaches the security of the believer. No one can snatch a believer out of the hand of God - **John 10:28-29 (KJV)** **<sup>28</sup>“And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.”** Nothing can separate a believer from the love of Christ - **Ro 8:35-39**. But note carefully: these promises are for one who is a believer! The Bible also teaches a believer may become an unbeliever - **Hebrews 3:12-14 (KJV)** **<sup>12</sup>“Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. <sup>13</sup>But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. <sup>14</sup>For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;”**

Yes, a believer can develop **“an evil heart of unbelief.”** In so doing, such a person “departs from the living God.” When a believer becomes an unbeliever, the promises of security for the believer are no longer applicable! This explains the many warnings in the Scriptures to remain faithful (**Rev. 2:10**). Some say there is no need to be concerned; however, The Bible warns about the danger of becoming hardened by “the deceitfulness of sin,” but we are not alone in our resistance; **“the God of all grace”** stands ready to assist us. **1 Peter 5:10 (KJV)** **<sup>10</sup>“But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.”**

. . . Terry Broome