

Calling: The Assault
December 20, 2008

It is the image of God reflected in you that so enrages hell; it is this at which the demons hurl their mightiest weapons.

- William Gurnall

Introduction

Facing the Giants

In his six years of coaching, Grant Taylor has never had a winning season. Even the hope of a new season is squelched when the best player on his Shiloh Eagles decides to transfer schools. After losing their first three games of the season, the coach discovers a group of fathers are plotting to have him fired. Combined with pressures of a rattle-trap car, malfunctioning home appliances, he and his wife's inability to have children, and that awful smell in the house that they can't figure out, Coach Taylor has lost hope in his battle against fear and failure.

Evidence

What has been set against you?

Failure in your career
Financial setbacks
Relationship heartache

Have you considered what it's really about?

Your failures and pain? Or your potential?
Maybe it's not about your weaknesses.
Maybe it's about your strength!

So, it becomes the devil's business to keep the Christian's spirit imprisoned. He knows that the believing and justified Christian has been raised up out of the grave of his sins and trespasses. From that point on, Satan works that much harder to keep us bound and gagged, actually imprisoned in our own grave clothes. He knows that if we continue in this kind of bondage...we are not much better off than when we were spiritually dead.

- A.W. Tozer

What was set against Jesus from the beginning?

MATTHEW 2:7-8

“[Herod] was aroused at the intimation of a possible rival.”

MATTHEW 2:13-16

The Jews had refused to take the search of the Magi seriously; they scorned the idea that their *King* had come.

The people who were supposed to care, didn't even investigate the reports of His birth

Herod, who wasn't supposed to care took it seriously

He ordered the destruction of all boys under 2 years old

Maybe Jesus should just forget the whole “king” thing

It could get you intentionally ignored...or dead.

The Truth about Jesus

LUKE 1:32

The throne of David

ISAIAH 9:6-7

Government, kingdom, throne!

Jesus really was the KING!

Everything set against Jesus was set against His true kingship

Conclusion

Perhaps someone was afraid of Coach Taylor

Conversions? Reconciliations? Glory to God?

What if they're right?

Gurnall, and Tozer. About YOU I mean

What if the devil fears you? Knows that in your true connection to Christ you would wreck havoc on his kingdom

Questions to ponder

- What have I suffered from all my life?
- What has that *kept* you from doing?
- What is the opposite of *that*?
- If I could overcome all those setbacks, what could I do – for Christ and His kingdom

Jesus overcame. Went forward anyway. Took the risk. We should too!