

I. Ephesians 4:27

“Paul says that if we refuse to forgive, then the devil will have an entry. If you want to give an open door for the devil into your marriage or into your relationship with your children or grandchildren, or into a congregation, be hesitant and slow to forgive, hold things against people, be embittered, touchy and testy, be a bit cold to somebody who did you wrong but apologized. Then you are opening the door wide open for the devil to come in and wreak havoc.” Doug Kelly

(Hebrews 12:15)

A. Consideration of who and what the devil is:

1.

“Paul was very conscious of the reality, power, and deceitfulness of the devil”...concluding ... “from the very start the devil must be resisted”. Hendrickson

2.

(the world, the flesh and the devil)

3.

*díabolos* – an accuser, a slanderer, one who maligns.

B. Some points to encourage and help

1.

(Col. 2:12-15)

2.

(Psalm 119:24)

3.

(1 John 4:4)

4.

(Mal 3:10-11)

**Heb 12:15**

**15 See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled;**

**Col 2:12-15**

**12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, 14 having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.**

**Ps 119:24**

**24 Your testimonies also are my delight;  
They are my counselors.**

**1 John 4:4**

**4 You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.**

**Mal 3:10-11**

**10 "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows. 11 "Then I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of the ground; nor will your vine in the field cast its grapes," says the LORD of hosts.**