

Revelation 2:13 (GW) ¹³ I know where you live. Satan's throne is there. You hold on to my name and have not denied your belief in me, even in the days of Antipas. He was my faithful witness who was killed in your presence, where Satan lives.

17) What are we to hold on to like the Church in Pergamum? Why?

18) Of the three enemies we have studied, which is your worst? Why?

19) Of all the things we are to hold on to, which is the hardest? Why?

20) What will you do differently so that you can hold the fort?

Hold the Fort

Our Enemies:

Galatians 5:19-21 (GW) ¹⁹ Now, the effects of the corrupt nature are obvious: illicit sex, perversion, promiscuity, ²⁰ idolatry, drug use, hatred, rivalry, jealousy, angry outbursts, selfish ambition, conflict, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, wild partying, and similar things. I've told you in the past and I'm telling you again that people who do these kinds of things will not inherit God's kingdom.

1) According to these verses, what is our first enemy?

2) What are the works of our first enemy?

James 1:13-15 (GW) ¹³ When someone is tempted, he shouldn't say that God is tempting him. God can't be tempted by evil, and God doesn't tempt anyone. ¹⁴ Everyone is tempted by his own desires as they lure him away and trap him. ¹⁵ Then desire becomes pregnant and gives birth to sin. When sin grows up, it gives birth to death.

3) How does the flesh attack us?

4) At which point do you think it would be the easiest to resist temptation? The hardest?

1 John 2:15-17 (GW) ¹⁵ Don't love the world and what it offers. Those who love the world don't have the Father's love in them. ¹⁶ Not everything that the world offers—physical gratification, greed, and extravagant lifestyles—comes from the Father.

It comes from the world, and ¹⁷ the world and its evil desires are passing away. But the person who does what God wants lives forever.

5) According to these verses, what is our second enemy?

6) What kinds of things does the World offer?

John 8:44 (GW) ⁴⁴ You come from your father, the devil, and you desire to do what your father wants you to do. The devil was a murderer from the beginning. He has never been truthful. He doesn't know what the truth is. Whenever he tells a lie, he's doing what comes naturally to him. He's a liar and the father of lies.

7) According to this verse who is our third enemy?

8) What does he do?

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

How is God's will done?

God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

9) What enemies do we pray against in the 3rd petition of the Lord's Prayer?

10) What are the weapons that God gives us against these enemies?

What do we hold on to?

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 (GW) ¹ Brothers and sisters, I'm making known to you the Good News which I already told you, which you received, and on which your faith is based. ² In addition, you are saved by this Good News if you hold on to the doctrine I taught you, unless you believed it without thinking it over.

11) According to Paul, what should we hold on to?

12) What does this mean?

13) How do we do this?

1 Thessalonians 5:21 (GW) ²¹ Instead, test everything. Hold on to what is good.

14) What are we to test everything against?

15) Why are we to test everything?

Hebrews 3:14 (GW) ¹⁴ After all, we will remain Christ's partners only if we continue to hold on to our original confidence until the end.

16) What is the confidence that we are to hold on to?