

S E P T E M B E R 1 3 2 0 2 1



“The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.”

Deuteronomy 28:7 (NKJV)

Thought for today...

In 1963, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), broadcast ‘Doctor Who’, a science fiction program that chronicled the time travelling adventures of ‘the Doctor’. Of the numerous foes the Doctor battled, the ‘Daleks’ - malevolent cyborg aliens - proved to be the greatest of enemies. With their robotic movements and electronic, staccato speech pattern, the onscreen presence of the immediately recognisable Daleks, would cause many a child to flee and hide, such was their ability to instil fear. Those within proximity were under no illusion as to the Daleks intent, as they loudly exclaimed their assignment to **“EXTERMINATE!”**

The early years of the storyline in which the Daleks were featured, indicated a significant problem for them - they were unable to navigate stairs! And with this revelation, hope was restored to British viewers. Armed with this knowledge, viewers confidently shouted encouragement to those facing peril each episode: “Run to the stairs!” knowing that the simple action of going up or down stairs would thwart the Daleks nefarious plan, given they were unable to follow their prey.



The Dalek

The enemy of our souls may adopt a more subtle approach to that of the Daleks, but his mission too is to **“EXTERMINATE!”** John 10:10 tells us that: ‘**The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy...**’ (NLT).

With his tools of tiredness, distraction, discouragement, confusion and other antics, he will attack our prayer lives and times of worship. As followers of Christ, we too must ‘run to the stairs’ - the place of safety, which is found in God’s presence - and in so doing, thwart the enemy’s plan! Rather than just to flee from the enemy, we are encouraged to run to Jesus - to seek God’s presence intentionally. The Devil hates it, when through prayer, praise, worship and thanksgiving, we ‘run to the stairs’ where God awaits us.

‘Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.’ Hebrews 4:16 (Christian Standard Bible).

Perhaps you are facing yet another perilous life episode and feel that there is no means of escape? Psalm 91:3 declares: **‘The Lord will keep you safe from secret traps and deadly diseases.’** (Contemporary English Version).

We are also reminded that **‘... the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear.’** Isaiah 59:1 (NIV).

Further, King David testifies: **“For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; in the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.”** Psalm 27:5 (NKJV).



Just as hope was restored to viewers with the discovery that the Daleks could not navigate stairs, we too can have hope and be confident that when the Lord has set us high upon a rock in the secret place of His tabernacle, the enemy won’t be able to follow us there.