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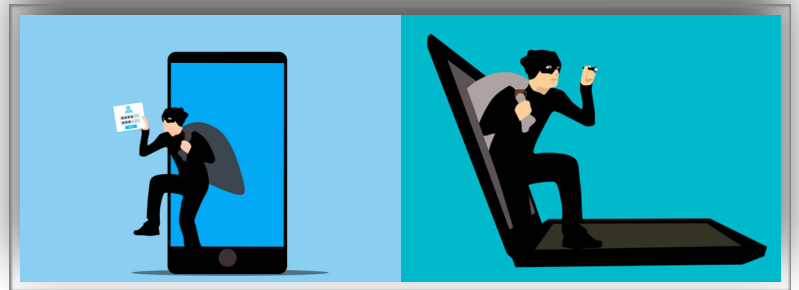


Just as Jerusalem is protected by mountains on every side, the LORD protects His people by holding them in His arms now and forever. [Psalm 125:2](#) (Contemporary English Version)

Thought for today...

“Your website is under a brute force attack” Hardly the message I expected to receive concerning this website. Hackers use this method in an attempt to gain unauthorised access and to compromise the integrity of a website.

Brute force can be described as achieving an objective by using savage violence or unreasoning strength.



Not content to solely use subtle ploys and devices to distract, disarm and alarm us, the enemy of our soul will at times launch a brute force attack. Whatever the approach, his intention remains the same — to diminish our hope, extinguish our faith, delay our assignment, obliterate our dreams and take our life — because he is a thief and **‘the thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy...’** [John 10:10](#) (English Standard Version).

In order to thwart such attacks, it is strongly recommended that a firewall is put in place. A firewall acts as a gatekeeper to monitor and block unwanted traffic and to stop malicious software from infecting your computer.

We read many accounts in the Bible of cities whose walls were fortified, thus offering protection against intruders seeking to plunder and capture both the city and its inhabitants.

The prophet Zechariah had a vision that ‘Jerusalem will be a city without walls because of the great number of people and animals in it’ [Zechariah 2:4](#) (New International Version), however, the lack of walls will not prove detrimental as the Lord says: “Then I, myself, will be a protective wall of fire around Jerusalem...” [Zechariah 2:5](#) (New Living Translation).

As followers of Christ who fear the name of the Lord, we are assured that ‘when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him.’ [Isaiah 59:19](#) (NKJV).

King David testifies that ‘... the angel of the LORD is a guard; He surrounds and defends all who fear Him.’ [Psalm 34:7](#) (NLT).

Further, we are reminded that ‘... the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.’ [2 Thessalonians 3:3](#) (NIV).

As servants of the Lord, our heritage is that no weapon formed, fashioned or forged against us will prosper ([Isaiah 54:17](#)), regardless of the enemy’s malicious software and brute force attacks.



God is our shield. God is our protection. God is our firewall.