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MANY ADVERSARIES

In 1 Corinthians 16 Paul gave instructions to the church at Corinth about taking up offerings and would send someone to receive them. He told the church where he would winter and other things of interest. He also went on to tell them that there was an opportunity for him to minister but there were those that opposed him in doing this. In 16:8-9 he said, ***“8 But I will tarry at Ephesus until Pentecost. 9 For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.”***

The word effectual means “powerful.” Paul was letting the church at Corinth know there was a door being open that would be very powerful. But there were many in opposition trying to stop him from going through that door that God had opened.

You can be sure when God opens a door that the enemy will do everything in his power to stop you from going through it. He will put stumbling blocks in your way such as sickness, finances, slander, even threats against you. Satan, the greatest adversary of any Christian, does not play fair. He does not want you to succeed.

Often, when things happen like these stumbling blocks, we think maybe we missed God. We begin to question whether it truly was an open door or not. We base this on “circumstances” instead of faith. Faith pushes through even though the enemy wages war against us.

Always remember that there is a real enemy out there that wants to ***“steal, kill, and destroy”*** all that you put your hand to. (John 10:10.) We must resist the temptation to give up and know that the adversary cannot win if we do not let him. Yes, we may get weary, but when God opens a door, we do all we can to go through it. Don’t let your adversary control you. You control him as you ***resist him, then he will flee.*** (James 4:7.)