

Your Three Common Enemies

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[0:00] You know, all the time, right? I mean, it's a computer and it's probably right, but, you know, so I just wanted to double check it, so I googled it anyway, and you know, and Google says that, yeah, although it does, you know, it's the Bible does teach this, it's not an exact verse, it's, I'm like, how about that, how about that?

You know, I don't know about you, but, you know, when I'm talking to somebody, and they tell me, well, you know, the Bible says this and that, some, you know, I don't know about you, but if you feel saved any time at all, am I on, am I okay?

Okay, so they'll be saying that, and I'll go like this, I'll go, you know, it just doesn't, it just doesn't ring right, it just doesn't ring right, so I'll be looking, I'll go looking for it, sometimes I'm wrong, most of the time I found that, you know, when it doesn't ring right, it's just not, it's not it, it just doesn't ring right, anybody know what I'm talking about?

You've talked to people about the Bible, and, and what they tell you is, well, you know, the Bible says this, and I'm like, oh, it doesn't ring right, it just doesn't ring right, okay, well, there are, they are our common enemies, and I, you know, I can give you any number of verses that would prove those things, you know, you've heard it all your life, the world, the flesh, and the devil, those are, those are your common enemies, you could probably fit everything within those three, you know what I'm saying, there's a lot of different, there's a lot of different three categories, you know, three, Dr. Uckman would say that three is the number of divine completeness, that's what it was, divine completeness, and, you know, you think about the number seven, perfect, perfect completeness, you know, whatever, number nine has to do with completeness, you know, there's, there's different completenesses in there, and I'm not gonna, you know, for me, it's like, you know, yeah, they're just completenesses, okay, just leave it alone, let it be that, but, you know, the number three, the number three, there's, there's completenesses in the number three, like, you can probably think of some right now, what are some, what are some threes, you know, how about, how about the Father, Son, the Holy Ghost, you know, these complete threes, you're not gonna do anything with them, they are, you're not gonna add to them, you're not gonna subtract to them, you know, we're talking about the world, the flesh, and the devil, those are the three, you're gonna put everything in there, you know, you, you're giving me that verse about the lust of the flesh, lust of the other, and pride of life, and you're gonna fit everything, every one of your sins in there, you know, that's another three, just everything you got, you're gonna end up fitting in there, I remember Pastor Dave told us about the three C's of relationships, consecration, communication, consideration, you know, and I spent, I spent years trying to figure out another one, you know, I'm gonna get another C, I'm gonna get another one in there, but it would fit in another one, you know, those are just, that's a, that's one of those threes, that works, there's nothing wrong with that, you know, you heard Pastor Walski talk about the three heavens, right, I mean, I don't know, you know, you can, you, you can go, you break up the third heaven, and as many heavens as you want, there's three, okay, the Bible talks about three, and so there's three of those, there's, there's three temptations, right, the devil, you know, I like the way Brother Gipp puts it, you know, he, he says how the Jesus Christ knocked the devil out in three punches, I like that, but there's, there's three there, there's three, three days, three days and three nights and complete, to complete the resurrection, don't ask me why, I don't know why, this is the way God, God works, you know, when you're reading your Bible, learn how, learn how God does the thing, you know, you're not gonna get it all figured out, there's a lot of things you're not gonna know, but it's nice when you can understand how God works a certain way, you know, God works by sevens too, right, you got seven days, seven notes, every seven years, your sales change, I mean, there's all, these, there's lots of those, and the three one goes on and

on and on and you've heard of the three D's of the devil, anybody know what the three D's of the devil are, okay, write it down, oh, by the way, so, I'm not gonna ask you for a show of hands, but I'm hoping everybody wants to memorize scripture, I'm hoping everybody wants to do that, so, one of the excuses is, that I just don't know what to memorize, well, in this message tonight, I'm gonna tell you right now, I think every verse is a memory verse, so, when I give a reference, write it down, and I give another, go ahead and write it down, and then you'll have some memory verses to work on for the next months, okay, I'm telling you, these will be, these will be memory verses that you will use, I guarantee you, so, the three D's of the devil, doubt, discouragement, and discord, anybody ever heard that, a couple people, okay, those are the three D's of the devil, write them down, everything will pretty much go in there, doubt, you know, unbelief is, is, is like, you know, there's idolatry, there's unbelief, I mean, unbelief is one of the biggest problems in the Bible, so, doubt, discouragement, judgment, and discord, and the list goes on and on, I'm not preaching about numerics tonight, but I do believe God has, God works with math, and, and each number does have a particular meaning, that doesn't mean every time you see it, you know, you're not looking for a thing around every corner, right, the number five, you know, some people say it's death, some people say it's grace, you know,

[5:21] I'm not, you know, I'm not gonna sit there and say, every time you see that 13th rebellion, right, but they do have their meanings, and they do stand out a lot when they're, when they're talking about that number, now, I want to look at these three common enemies, if you're going to put a title on the thing, it's going to be our common enemies, the world, the flesh, and the devil, and if you're wandering around in your Christianity, not aware of our common enemies, chances are you're not doing a good job fighting it, that makes sense, and, and so many Christians, because I meet them, I meet them, I'm working with one right now, and I meet these Christians that, they're wandering around in their Christianity, and they're not fighting anything, because they don't even know the enemy, they don't recognize the enemy, do you recognize the enemy, think about the past week, think about the past week, oh, how is, how, how has it gone out, gone on in your mind, have you been paying attention, have you been paying attention to fighting the enemy, you know, in my mind, in my mind, you probably heard preachers do this, but, like, so I have a three-fold purpose to the message, well, in my mind, I do, I don't know what God's purpose, you know, he didn't tell me, I didn't get that, but, but, so my three-fold purpose, in my mind, is, you know, number one, you got to realize and respond, you know, when you're getting, when you, when you get preaching, that's what preaching is, it's not, it's not, I'm not trying to show you some, some doctrine, this is just preaching, okay, and you got to realize where you are in it, and then respond to it, so, number one is you're, you're still, I want you to remember and see that you're still at war, okay, the war isn't over, all right, the war isn't over till you show up up there, so, you know, and we're going to look at a couple things here, the world, the flesh, and the devil, and, you know, if you're not careful, you'll, you'll forget, you just get out of the battle, you know what I'm talking about, if you, if you've been in the battle, you know what I'm talking about, if you haven't, you may not know what I'm talking about, but that's the way it goes, you get, you get in the battle, and then you get, kind of get lazy, you know, you, you can read stories about war, and, and I like to read those stories, but I can recall reading, readings, reading, and it just kind of my mind, but, so, they're in, they're in the, they're in one of those, whatever you call them things, where they hide, in those holes, you know, the, the craters, whatever they, whatever it be, and the guy's in there, and he knows, you don't stick your head up out of there, he knows that, but inevitably, the guy gets comfortable, and he's been here for a long time on the battlefield, and then all of a sudden, he just gets lazy, and he pokes his head up, he's out like that, you know what

I'm talking about, that's the way that goes, because the enemy, the enemy wants to kill you, right, it makes sense, doesn't it, the enemy wants to knock you out, that's all, the enemy's not interested in what, in your well-being, so you, you're still at war, and the second one would be, it may be, it may be time to re-up, right, in our world, people join the military, and after four years, right, most of them in four years, I don't know how it works anymore, but they sign up for four years, and then you decide if you're out, or you re-up, right, so, you know, maybe, just maybe, tonight, as we look at this, you need to, maybe you need to re-up, maybe you haven't been fighting, I don't know, that's something to think about, now, and the third one, in my mind, in my mind, it, it may be time to distance yourself again,

you, you've been there, you know, you, you, you, you realize it, and you start, you, you're just like, man, I've just, wow, I got to get away from the world, man, the world is just wearing me out, I don't know if you've been there, but then, you know, and then as time goes on, you know, you find yourself, like, you know, you're like, you're almost like buddy-buddy with them, maybe, maybe it's time that you distance yourself again, let's get back over here, let's get back over here, where we, where we belong, you know what I'm talking about, maybe, that's, that's, that's what I think about when I'm thinking about the message, this is, you know, my three, I don't know what the Lord's going to be showing somebody, I don't, you know, you know, we preachers, we say, you know, you need to listen to the Lord, you need to listen to the Lord, look, he's not talking to us either, okay, just so you know, when we say that, we mean, we mean, you know, be listening to the spirit of God in your heart, as it impresses your, your heart to move in a certain direction, or, John, it could be bad pizza, I'm just saying, so you got to be careful, right, but we're not hearing the voices either, you know, I got to tell you, as a, coming up as a, as a young Christian, I was, you know, always heard about, you know, you need to, you need to talk to God, and God's gonna, whatever God tells, I'm like, are you, are you getting stuff that, I don't have any idea what you're talking about, but there, you know, I realized after years and years, there's, that, that verbal thing is not really happening, right, you get impressed inside, you really feel like the Lord's impressed and moved upon you to whatever, people go to the mission field, right, this, this, I believe this is fresh oil, that's what I, that's what I pray, God, show me what to preach, I don't have a list of, you know, next time Pastor Walsh can ask me to preach, this is what I'm gonna do, I don't do that, it's, you know, somebody asked me to preach wherever, that's when I hit, that's when I, that's when I hit the knees, you know, that's when I, and typically, the, the thing that comes in there, is it, I'm not thinking about it, I'm not looking for it, you could preach on a million different things, but it's just the way, that, that's, you know, and I trust that, I trust by faith, right, Hebrews chapter 11, we live by faith, that's what we do, we live by faith, so if you're not, you know, you're not, you need to be aware of your common enemies, if you're not, and you're wandering around, you're probably not doing a good job fighting, let's look at a few verses, you can write these down, they'd be good for you, 2nd Timothy chapter 2, 2nd Timothy chapter 2, probably, you know, this is probably, these are probably my favorite books, if I had a, if I had to say a favorite book, it would probably be 1st and 2nd Timothy, 2nd Timothy chapter 2, and verse 3 and 4, it says, thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ, no man that warreth entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him, who hath chosen him to be a soldier, it's talking about the guy who's in the war, and you're a soldier, but no man that warreth entangles himself with the affairs of this life, it's a, it's a war going on, look at 2nd Timothy chapter 4, and verse 7, it says, I have, Jesus Paul, he says, I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith, he's in a fight, okay, this is, I'm sorry, that's what it is, 1st Timothy chapter 6, 1st Timothy chapter 6, and verse 12, if you want some memory verses, these are good, fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses, it says, fight the good fight of faith, right, it's a fight, that's what you're supposed to be doing, I know it's hard, I know it's hard here in California, and I, and I, you know, and it's not hard to be a Christian, because the way of the transgressor is hard, Jesus said, take my yoke upon you, my yoke is easy, right, the way of the transgressor is hard, don't allow yourself to think wrong, right, the way of the transgressor is hard, his yoke is easy, and his burden is light, you say, that don't make any sense, preacher,

I'm sorry, but that's what it is, you, you got to start believing, huh, when you, when you reject it, you're not believing, right, that's one of the three D's, right, unbelief, it's, his yoke is easy, that's what he said, we just got to, we got to believe that, and move accordingly, so, I know it's hard here in California, and even in Los Angeles, to see that, it's a battlefield, brother, not a recreation room, it's a fight, and not a game, okay, you, I don't know if you've heard the song, but there's a song that says those words just like that, it's a battlefield, not a recreation room, and I think, you know, especially out here in California, and Los Angeles, most Christians think this is a recreation room, I mean, you got everything out here, I mean, there's, there's not much you can't do here, I mean, I was raised in New York and New Jersey, when I was in New Jersey, we all got in all kinds of trouble, because there was just nothing to do, nothing, I mean, there was no place to go, nothing to do, but out here, man, you could be skiing one day, and surfing the same day, right, you could be, you could go to something in Hollywood, or you could do the walk of the, walk of fame, or whatever it is, you can go to, you know, all these things, what are they, what are they, like, what are these different amusement things, right, there's all kinds of them out there, you can go to SeaWorld, you can go to

[15:54] Legoland, you can go, you've got everything out here, entertainment, forget, forget there's a fight, we forget there's a fight, we think it's a recreation room, if we're not careful, this could be our first point, would be the world, we're talking about our common enemies, the world, I want to look at the world, the flesh, and the devil, when you think about it, everything that has to do with the world, here in Los Angeles, I wrote down the worship, the cultures, the entertainment, the education, man, everything out here, you know, when I was looking at, I was looking at prestigious universities in California, there's a lot of them, they've got the education, there's the entertainment, I don't even know what to say about the entertainment, it's overwhelming how much entertainment there is here, the cultures, we have every major ethnicity, whatever they are, whatever you want to call it, the all the, you know, we got little Tibet, we got a little Bangladesh, I mean, I go through to see these places, I'm like, who are these people, how does one get here, you know, the worship, you got, you could, you could worship, you could go to Hindu temples here, you could go to Buddhist temples here, Scientology, right, there's everything here, the world, I get it, the world is, you know, maybe, just maybe, you find yourself, you need to get back to distancing yourself some, you know, it's so easy to get, to get wrapped up in this world if you're not careful, we already looked at 2nd Timothy 2, 3 and 4, endure hardness, and it said, it says, and be not entangled with the affairs of this life, that you may please him who hath chosen you to be a soldier, that's what it says, and if you're, if you're not, it says, what does it say, it says, endure hardness as a good soldier,

Jesus Christ, be not entangled again with the affairs of this life, that you may please him who hath chosen you to be a soldier, if you're not warring, you're probably entangled, that make sense, that would be my deductive reasoning from that verse, if you're not warring, you're probably entangled, that's not, that's, that's not hard to do here, that's not hard to do here, entangled with the affairs of this life, it's pretty easy to do, so how's your warring going, how's your warring going, you know, you got to examine that, you got to think about that in your own life, how, am I, am I warring, you know, you got, you're going to have to step back and take a look at it, if you don't war against it, before you know it, you're going to be just like it, you know, it's a, they got this governor guy running for governor in New York, I don't even know how to pronounce his name, but, you know what I'm talking about, right, you've heard of Madami, Madadam, huh, there you go, that sounded pretty good, now he's a, he's a socialist, and self-proclaimed, socialist, communist, self-proclaimed, and, and he's like the, he's like the runner-up, he's like, in the lead, what happened to America, wasn't America the, the, wasn't America the opposite,

I mean, if I was to ask you, if I was to tell you, give me some opposites, and I mention Russia, what would you do, USA, right, who, who wouldn't, anybody that wouldn't do that, if I said opposite of

Russia, USA, even you would do that probably, right, maybe, eh, maybe not, would you do that Mark, like absolutely, and yet, if you're not careful, you get entangled with it, you become just like it, because we've got a bunch of people here, that want to be like Russia, that's just crazy in my life, that's crazy, but, it happens, hey, Lot's a good example, right, Lot's a good example, we don't have to go to the story, but Lot, Lot is under the influence, of Abraham, man, he was, that was probably pretty good, I would assume, Abraham's not the great, you know, he makes some mistakes, but he's, man, he's going to be way up there on my level, right over my list, right, Abraham's going to be way up there, so Lot was under the sky, that's got to be some good influence, and before you know it, he's offering his daughters to sex perverts, what happened, what happened, where he left Abraham, he got entangled in the world, is what he did, he got entangled in the world, how about, how about Samson,

Samson played with fire, and got burnt, right, how about the prodigal son, didn't resist it, ended up leaving the father's house, for the world, and he hit the bottom of bottoms, did he not, right, the world, the world, is not your friend, you ever hear that, write it down, mark it down, have it somewhere in front of you, the world is not your friend, always remember that, the world is not your friend, oh, we like it, we gravitate to it, but it is the enemy of God, write down James chapter 4, verse 4, that'd be a good one, trying to quote it right now, but it has to do with the, I'm probably right, I'm close enough, I'm pretty close, James 4, 4, it says, you adulterers, and adulteresses, you adulterers, and adulteresses, know you not, that the friendship, of the world, is enmity with God, whosoever, therefore we are friend of the world, is the enemy of God, you say, I'm not a friend of the world, I'm not, I'm even going to ask you, to raise your hand, I'm not even going to ask you, raise your hand, but if I was to, if I was to start asking you, about certain people, in this world, you know it's like this, you know when Kobe Bryant died, he was a big one out here, right, Kobe Bryant, Kobe Bryant died, I, I'm sorry, Kobe Bryant died, I'm sorry, somebody died up the street too, somebody else died, but man, I'm telling you, there were Christians, that was just like, I just can't take it, I'm like, you were able to take it, about your neighbor, right, I remember the first time, I really paid attention to it, I think was when Princess Di died, anybody, you know, you know what I'm talking about, this is the princess, in England, and she was big, and this is, I'm old, okay, so if you're, if you're younger, young, you don't have any idea, who that is, but, but I remember when she died, and I remember Christians, just like, crying and weeping,

[23:12] I'm like, are you kidding me, you snuggled way too close, huh, you know what I'm talking about, so take your, take that one, that you really like, whoever it is, you know, Robert Redford just died recently, or somebody, you know, there's all kinds of people, and, you pick one that you like, and think, what would happen if he died, or she died, how would I feel, but just your neighbor could die, probably wouldn't do much for you, so, you, you get affected, that, in that way, with somebody, that you probably, never be able to reach for Christ, but we couldn't get that way, for somebody that we could reach, huh, yeah, yeah, yeah, you know, I only have time to preach one message on this, but, you know, we, we, I would probably do well to, to beat it up as much as I could, because the world, if you're not careful, the world is going to, creep in your heart, and become, become the, that thing, that you love, and you say,

I'm not even going to get to that place, I won't love the world, you already do probably, if you're not careful, right, if there's, if there's anybody, that can deceive you, it's you, right, the Bible says, the heart is deceitful, above all things, and desperately wicked, who can know it, who can know it, if you're not careful, you know, you can know it, in the Bible, but that's about the only way, you're going to do that, you know, those are some checklists, for you, you know, you come up with your own checklist, but that would be a good checklist, for yourself, how do I feel, about these worldly characters, that, really, I'm never going to get near, why do I feel, so attached to them, that's a problem, the world, the effects the world has on you, if you're not fighting, before you know it, you are, unknowingly, rooting for them, right, well, that's, that's probably getting, real close, to the friendship thing, if you're not careful, before you know it, you're rooting for the wrong side, Colossians 2, 8, I think I got it, Colossians 2, 8, you can write that one down, that's a good one, beware, lest any man spoil you, right, well, it says beware, what do you do, when you read in your Bible, the word beware, do you stop a second, and go, man, I need to beware, this isn't just an and,

or then, or I wrote to the church, in Thessalonica, this is beware, so when you read beware, you probably should, you probably should stop a second, and beware, beware lest any man spoil you, through philosophy, huh, where are you going to get that from, beware lest any man spoil you, through philosophy, is it vain deceit, and vain deceit, right, rudiments in the world, tradition to man, I don't know what the exact order in there is, but it's all that worldly stuff, and not after Christ, it says beware lest any man, spoil, that's what's going to happen, if you're not careful, we're talking about our common enemies, the world, the flesh, and the devil, beware is like 26 times in your Bible, you do well to look at them all, there's only 26, pull out a concordance, spend one of your devotion times, in looking at the word beware, there's only 26, it's not a lot, it's not like you know, you get overwhelmed, when you look for a word, you know I look for words, sometimes it's a 580, I'm just like, it's not going to do that, I better break that down, a little better somehow, but this is only 26 times, you do well, do that, write down beware, and then look at all the beware verses, that would be good for you I think, it's through teaching, it's, it's, that's what's happening right there, philosophy, vain deceit, rudiment is of the world, write down if you want, if you're looking for memory verses, 2nd Timothy chapter 4, 2nd Timothy chapter 4, and verse 2 through 4, 2nd Timothy 4, 2 through 4, it says, am I in the right place, all right, it says, preach the word, being sent in season, out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long suffering, and doctrine, for the time will come, when they will not endure, sound doctrine, well I'll tell you right now, if, if, if that time hasn't come yet, it's got to be here, I mean we're not, there's not that much time left, I mean all the prophecies, all the things that are, that are rolling through there, are, I mean right there, so I don't know, what other time, we're looking for, but the time will come, when they will not endure, sound doctrine, so I'm gonna, I'm just gonna step out there, and say this is definitely, one of those, this is definitely that time, for the time will come, when they will not endure, sound doctrine, but after their own lust, after their own lust, after their own lust, they shall heap to themselves, teachers, having itching ears, and they shall turn away, their ears from the truth, and shall return to fables, so they gravitate to teachers, and everybody likes that today, everybody likes teaching, oh man, they don't necessarily like, preaching too much, but man, they all like the teaching thing, they dig that, I'm gonna leave it right there, on that one, but it is, it is, it'll, the world will spoil you through that, if you're not careful, all right, the second one, the flesh, we're talking about, our common enemies, the world, the flesh, and the devil, 1st John chapter 2, verse 15 and 16, those will be good memory verses, 1st John chapter 2, and verse 15 and 16, it says, love not the world, neither the things, that are in the world, if any man love the world, you getting that, everybody getting that, like I'm getting it right, world, world, right, you getting that right, okay, it says, love not the world, neither the things, that are in the world, if any man love the world, the love of the father, is not in him, for all that is in the world, if we haven't said it enough times yet, the lust of the eyes, the lust of, [30:10] I mean the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the father, but of the world, huh, it's the world, love not the world, neither the things, that are in the world, how many times, have you heard somebody say, oh I love this, you ever done that, oh I love, oh what I do, I love, oh that's what we should do, when that happens, because it's just you, we feel in yourself, oh but I didn't mean that, oh yeah you did, out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth, yeah, oh man I really love, huh, I just love, get in there, get back in there, Romans 7, 8, 18 says, in my flesh dwelleth no good thing, right, we're not fooling anybody, hopefully we're not fooling ourselves, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, every one of your sins, everything you do, everywhere you sin, just plug it in there, just plug it into one of those, sometimes maybe two, but you can always plug it right in there, so if you're wondering, man is this sin, but start plugging it in, there's only three of them in there, the flesh, the flesh is not your friend, the devil, enemy number three, the devil, now there's a lot of words, connected with the devil, the wicked one, there's spirits, there's angels, there's a lot of people, there's a lot of people, there's a lot of people, there's all kinds of influence there, but the Bible says, greater is he, right, that is in you, than he is in the world, so, yes, the devil,

I don't think the devil, really even knows, I exist half the time, I think there's demons, or little spirits, and all that, that are messing with me, or, most of the time, I'm just doing it, all by myself, amen, I'm not kidding anybody, you know Eve, you know Eve, had lust in her, right, you know Eve, as a perfect person, all they had to do, was trigger it, because, she had to sin, to sin, huh, it wasn't, it wasn't the lust, it wasn't after, right, that makes sense, it was before the fall, you fell, because you, see, in the garden, we needed some help, right, devil came around, and said hey, and she's going yeah, so we needed help, in the garden, but now, now, man we're professionals now, right, yeah, we don't need much help now, we can do it, all by ourself, you know, I don't know about you, but I hear it all the time, the devil, the devil, the devil, the devil, the devil, it's always the devil, did that, and it's the devil's fault, and the devil made me do it, and, I'm sorry, but he probably doesn't even know you exist, he probably, you know, he knew Job existed, I think I'm reading a book on Billy Sunday, and I think he knew Billy, Billy Sunday existed, because Billy Sunday claimed he was fighting the devil, I mean, the devil's got to get his, got to have his attention, because he's getting kicked, and look, stop that, but you and me, I don't know, maybe, you may be on more of a spiritual plane, than I am, but I think, I don't even know if he knows who I exist, the world, the flesh, and the devil, Ephesians chapter 6, verse 12, you can write that down, I'm out of time, James 4, 7, write that down, it says, resist the devil, and he'll flee from you, that's what God said, you submit to God, you resist the devil, he'll flee, that's what you're supposed to do, you, you, you resist the devil, you flee the flesh, right, it says, flee fornication, right, things like that, maybe tonight, maybe tonight, you know, like I said, about the threefold purpose, maybe you, maybe you need to re-up, maybe you need to, maybe you need to distance yourself, a little more, I don't know, maybe you need to see, maybe you need to just see, how it affects your life, let's pray, I'd like to, I'd like to do a song, in the white book, is thy heart right with God, that's in the white book, and if you, you know, it's, it's, it's all on you, you, you need to decide, maybe you need to pray, and ask the Lord to, do, you know, do something in your heart, maybe you need to get right with God, I don't know, maybe you recognize tonight, there's something about the woe, the flesh, and the devil, you need to deal with, I don't know,