

## God encourages us, Satan discourages us, we choose who we believe

The antidote to discouragement is to know how good God is and by Him minister to others

Ps 27:13 **I would have lost heart (and become discouraged), unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living.**

Prov 21:16 **The person that wanders out of the way of (spiritual) understanding (and believes discouraging thoughts) will remain in the congregation of the dead.**

2 Cor 4:1 **God in his mercy has given us this ministry, and so we do not become discouraged (over adversity, disappointment, delay, or unbelief by others).**

2 **But we have renounced the hidden things of shame...not handling the word of God deceitfully, but in full light of the truth we commend ourselves to every person's conscience in the sight (presence) of God.**

Satan uses demons and people they influence to discourage us, but we can look to God

2 Chron 32:7 **Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid nor discouraged before the king of (darkness) nor before all the multitude that is with him (spirits of discouragement) because there are more (Angels) with us than with him.**

Isa 45:22 **Look to Me, and be saved (from spirits of discouragement)...For I am God...**

1 Sam 30:6 **David was greatly distressed; for the people spoke of stoning him...but David encouraged himself in the Lord his God (feeding his heart on God's words, giving God thanks, receiving God's thoughts in prayer and from Angels).**

2 Cor 6:14-15 **Don't be teamed with those who do not love the Lord, for what do the people of God have in common with the people of sin? How can light live with darkness? And what harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a Christian partner with one who doesn't believe?**

16 **And what union can there be between God's temple and idols (those who Satan influences to trust in and idolize themselves)? For you are God's temple the home of the living God, and God has said of you, "I will live in them and walk in them, and I will be their God and they will be my people."**

God uses people to encourage us and build us up so we become encouragers to others

1 Thess 3:2 **We sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you in your faith (to be encouraged is to believe God and to be discouraged is to not).**

Eph 4:11-12 **God gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, For the equipping of the saints so as to do the work of ministry, in order to spiritually build up the body of Christ,**

13 **Until we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the growth in maturity of being filled full of Christ;**