Sometimes we are 'collateral damage' in this spiritual WARFARE, of Satan verses Jesus & His Church.

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Living in a semi-stable country, quiet community, nice church, and NOT reading your Bible much and not thinking too deeply, one could easily think the Christian life is an easy one and we just go from blessing to blessing. But that is NOT the reality in the Lord's Spiritual Kingdom - there IS a war on. We need to open our spiritual eyes, so "that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting". Eph. 4:14

Satan, as the prince and ruler of this world, has his "anti-God" message throughout the media, government and education systems, and it is getting worse year by year. We see it in movies, TV, songs, abortion, hate-speech, evolution, video games, advertising. We get it from our work mates, neighbours, people on the street, sometimes even from our own family. The Devil and his demons are very busy in our world today.

But we need to see this from God's viewpoint. Satan is here to test mankind. God is after people who have chosen to follow Him and love Him, to take them to heaven. This means we live in a fallen world and need God's help daily to stand firm against the evil one. Put on God's armour (Ephesians 6:14-18) and STAND.

"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles." *Matt.* 10:16-18

"Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them." 2 Tim 12:14

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." *Eph. 6:10-13*

