

# Those Museum Pieces

by A.W. Tozer

---

*The devil's strategy for Christians is to destroy their power to wage spiritual warfare, and this is often achieved through false or inadequate teaching.*

**Scripture:** Ephesians 6:10

**Topics:** "Spiritual Warfare", "Complacency in Faith"

---

## Description

A.W. Tozer emphasizes that Satan's primary strategy is not to physically destroy Christians but to render them ineffective in spiritual warfare. He compares Christians who fail to engage in the fight to soldiers who flee from battle, highlighting the shame and disgrace this brings to the Church. Tozer warns that many believers have become complacent and merely exist as 'museum pieces' within the church, lacking the conviction and resolve to pursue their faith actively. He calls for a revival of spiritual courage and action among Christians, urging them to reclaim their warrior spirit against the enemy. The sermon serves as a wake-up call for the Church to recognize its role in the spiritual battle and to resist the temptations of complacency.

---

## Transcript

Now I do not think that Satan much cares to destroy us Christians physically. The soldier dead in battle who died performing some deed of heroism is not a great loss to the army but may rather be an object of pride to his country. On the other hand the soldier who cannot or will not fight but runs away at the sound of the first enemy gun is a shame to his family and a disgrace to his nation. So a Christian who dies in the faith represents no irreparable loss to the forces of righteousness on earth and certainly no victory for the devil.

But when whole regiments of professed believers are too timid to fight and too smug to be ashamed, surely it must bring an astringent smile to the face of the enemy; and it should bring a blush to the cheeks of the whole Church of Christ. The devil's master strategy for us Christians then is not to kill us physically (though there may be some special situations where physical death fits into his plan better), but to destroy our power to wage spiritual warfare. And how well he has succeeded.

The average Christian these days is a harmless enough thing. God knows. He is a child wearing with considerable self-consciousness the harness of the warrior; he is a sick eaglet that can never mount up with wings; he is a spent pilgrim who has given up the journey and sits with a waxy smile trying to get what pleasure he can from sniffing the wilted flowers he has plucked by the way. Such as these have been

reached. Satan has gotten to them early. By means of false teaching or inadequate teaching, or the huge discouragement that comes from the example of a decadent church, he has succeeded in weakening their resolution, neutralizing their convictions and taming their original urge to do exploits; now they are little more than statistics that contribute financially to the upkeep of the religious institution. And how many a pastor is content to act as a patient, smiling curator of a church full (or a quarter full) of such blessed spiritual museum pieces.

---

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/aw-tozer/those-museum-pieces/>

# *Grow in Your Walk with Christ*

---

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

**[www.sermonindex.net](http://www.sermonindex.net)**