

# (Sermon Clip) Don't Let Anyone Take Your Crown

by Tim Conway

---

*The sermon emphasizes the presence of false teachers who engage in deceitful schemes and craftiness to deceive spiritual children. The warning is given to put on the whole armor of God to stand against the devil's schemes, highlighting the intentional and cunning nature of these deceptions. The message underscores the importance of being vigilant against those who seek to seize the crowns of believers, portraying them as infiltrators within the church with seared consciences and devotion to deceitful spirits. The urgency to mature spiritually and discern the true intentions behind seemingly harmless individuals who may be wolves in sheep's clothing is emphasized.*

**Scripture:** Ephesians 6:11, Revelation 3:11, 1 Timothy 4:1, Matthew 7:15, 2 Corinthians 11:13

**Topics:** "Discernment", "Spiritual Vigilance"

---

## Description

The sermon emphasizes the presence of false teachers who engage in deceitful schemes and craftiness to deceive spiritual children. The warning is given to put on the whole armor of God to stand against the devil's schemes, highlighting the intentional and cunning nature of these deceptions. The message underscores the importance of being vigilant against those who seek to seize the crowns of believers, portraying them as infiltrators within the church with seared consciences and devotion to deceitful spirits. The urgency to mature spiritually and discern the true intentions behind seemingly harmless individuals who may be wolves in sheep's clothing is emphasized.

---

## Transcript

The Apostle is clearly indicating that false teachers are involved in this every wind of doctrine and that spiritual children are especially vulnerable. But keep reading, by craftiness and deceitful schemes or in cunning craftiness, lying in wait to deceive, or deceitful plotting or deceitful scheming. That word, scheming, schemes, you know it only shows up one other time in Scripture.

Right here in this epistle where Paul says this, Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. Here's the thing about a scheme or plotting. It's intentional.

They know what they're doing. You know, several years ago, I preached on each one of those churches in Asia Minor. I come out of Revelation 2 and 3. I preached some of those over and over throughout the years.

I just brought up the church at Philadelphia to the brethren up there in Fond du Lac. I'm reminded all over again, there's a very haunting statement sent by the Lord to those at Philadelphia. Listen to these.

I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have so that no one may seize your crown. Just read that.

Yes, I see it. I hear it. So that no one may seize your crown.

But you ever stop and think, why would He say that? Why does He look at His people and say, you better watch out that nobody seize your crown? That's an odd thing to say. Unless of course, there are people running around and there are people in the crowd real close to you who are crown seizers, then that would be a healthy warning. Remember, they know what they're doing.

There's craftiness. And you know what Scripture says? There's these men who, it says, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared. You've got people around you.

They're liars? Oh, and the picture is they infiltrate the church. They're here among us now. They're liars.

You see, when you look at somebody and say, how could they be so bold? Listen, you have to hear what's said there. Their consciences are seared. You get people around you they can't feel.

They don't care if you go to hell because they can't feel. They don't feel any sympathy for you. Do you know what it says? It says that in the later times, you're going to have these people that depart from the faith.

And it says they're going to be devoted to deceitful spirits and the teachings of demons. Even if men's consciences are seared, even if there's an ignorance aspect to some of the things that people do, you can know this, there are spirits and demons behind these things. And even if men sometimes are ignorant and don't know what they're doing or their consciences are so seared they can't feel what they're doing, I'll tell you this, the demons know exactly what they're doing.

Now when you get to chapter 6, that's where it talks about the schemes of the devil. And this is the thing about being novice. This is the thing about not knowing how to handle the Scriptures.

This is the thing about being a child spiritually. There is a danger. And when you hear about cunning and craftiness and deceitful schemes, when the Lord says to His church, and this was a healthy church at Philadelphia, beware that nobody take your crown.

There are people who by scheme and plot are reaching for it. That's the picture in Scripture. And the warnings are profuse.

Constant warnings against this kind of particular danger throughout Scripture. Didn't Jesus Christ say it? Matthew 7, we know there on the Sermon on the Mount, He said, beware of false prophets. Why? Why must you beware? Don't fall to sleep.

Why? Because they come to you in sheep's clothing. But inwardly, they're ravaging wolves. Do you know what that means? You see what's so difficult about this? We hear about crown stealers.

And you envision this really ugly, scary guy. And he's reaching for it. It's like the guy you meet in the dark that you'd never want to meet in the dark.

But that's not what they look like. They come in sheep's clothing. They look like a Christian.

In fact, you may remember me saying in the past, Lloyd-Jones was quite convinced that it's the guy rough around the edges and the guy that's ugly that is usually God's man. You get people, they look good. They look good.

The problem is these people have names. And they're often friendly and likable. And at least externally, they're nice guys.

They're attractive. Listen, the devil is behind these people. And he wants to take your crown and he wants to damn your soul.

And while we're children, we're vulnerable. This is why you need to grow up out of this. Because we're vulnerable.

But inside, they are ravenous. They have faces and they have names that you associate with Christianity. You associate with going to church on Sunday.

And you call them brother. But I'll tell you what eternity will show. When the veil is pulled back, you're going to be startled by some of the people and they knew what they were doing.

Or the demons behind them, they full well knew what was going on. And you know where they are? They're in here. They're on the Internet.

They're on Facebook. They're on YouTube. They're on the radio.

They're spiritual infants. They're the easiest prey. These people look like sheep.

They're all around us. This excerpt was taken from the full sermon, No Longer Children.

---

Video: <https://sermonindex2.b-cdn.net/bzB8WwIMDcU.mp4>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/tim-conway/sermon-clip-dont-let-anyone-take-your-crown/>

# *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)**