

Recognizing and Defending Against the Flaming Darts of Temptation

- A. *Ephesians 6:16* describes “the flaming darts of the evil one.” His identity is clear (*Rev 12:9*).
1. “Flaming” is a very appropriate way to describe the evil one’s darts in light of *James 3:5-6*.
 2. Temptation is dissected in very personal times in *James 1:13-15*.
- B. These lures and enticements are as old as *Genesis 3*.

Recognizing the Flaming Darts of the Evil One

- **Flaming Dart #1:** _____ God’s will
“Did God actually say...?” (*3:1a*)
- **Flaming Dart #2:** _____ God’s words
“Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” (*3:1b*)
- **Flaming Dart #3:** _____ God’s goodness
“We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden” (*3:2*)
- **Flaming Dart #4:** _____ God’s strictness and severity
“But God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” (*3:3*)
- **Flaming Dart #5:** _____ God’s judgment
“You will not surely die.” (*3:4*)
- **Flaming Dart #6:** _____ God’s love
“For God knows that when you eat of it...” (*3:5a*)
- **Flaming Dart #7:** _____ about the benefits of disobedience
“...your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” (*3:5b*)

Defending Against the Flaming Darts of the Evil One (*Eph 6:16*)

- **Flaming Dart #1:** _____ to God’s will (*Rom 10:17*)
- **Flaming Dart #2:** _____ God’s words (*Jude 3*)
- **Flaming Dart #3:** _____ God’s goodness (*Psa 119:68*)
- **Flaming Dart #4:** _____ God’s strictness and severity (*Rom 11:22*)
- **Flaming Dart #5:** Reverently _____ God’s judgment (*Rev 14:6-7*)
- **Flaming Dart #6:** _____ in God’s love (*Rom 8:35-37*)
- **Flaming Dart #7:** Refuse to believe the _____ of temptation (*James 1:13-16; John 8:44*)

Conclusion:

- A. You inhabit a world at war and the battlefield in which you are engaged is your heart (*2 Cor 10:3-5*).
- B. Whomever you are, you are presenting yourself to someone as an obedient slave (*Rom 6:16*).