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"How to be Unshockable and Unshakable" November 6, 2016

# **1.** Expect Trials:

**1 Peter 4:12-13** Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; (13) <u>but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ</u>, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

**1 Peter 4:14-16** If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. (15) Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, <u>or a troublesome meddler</u> (16) but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.

### 2. Start with Yourself

**1 Peter 4:17** For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

## **3.** Identify Your Enemy

**Ephesians 6:11-12** Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. (12) For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. **I Peter 5:8-9** Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. (9) But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. **1 Peter 4:18** AND IF IT IS WITH DIFFICULTY THAT THE RIGHTEOUS IS SAVED, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE GODLESS MAN AND THE SINNER?

James 3:14-16 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. (15) This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. 16) For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing.

#### WHEN WE DON'T OPPOSE THE DEMONIC WE OFTEN DEMONIZE OUR OPPONENTS.

**2 Timothy 2:26** and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

# 4. Trust God's Faithfulness

**1 Peter 4:19** Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.

## 5. Practice Strategic Kindness.... in doing what is right.

**2 Timothy 2:25-26** with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, (26) and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been <u>held captive</u> by him to do his will.

**Romans 2:4** Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

**1 Peter 3:15** Make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.

### Next Step...

- □ Pray I will be unshockable and unshakable with my family and friends.
- □ Pray I will repent for my own sins before I deal with others.
- □ I repent of attacking the spiritually blind for their blindness, to pray for them.
- $\hfill\square$  I choose to trust God's faithfulness no matter what.
- □ Pray I will practice strategic kindness with my one and all others.