

The three greatest spiritual enemies that threatens God's people?

- Different answers from men and women
- Different answers from those 50 years and older and those younger.

Four Facts About Spiritual Enemies

Ephesians 6:12

1. You need to recognize that you
have them!

Psalm 97:10 - “You that love
the Lord hate evil!”

1. You need to recognize that you have them!

Psalm 119:104 - “Through your precepts I get understanding. Therefore I hate every false way.”

1. You need to recognize them!

Luke 6:26 - “Woe to you
when all men speak well of
you...”

2. Different enemies threaten more at different stages...

- Stages of life (*2 Tim. 2:22; Titus 2*)

Titus 2 – Different threats at different stages of life

- **Older men** – “Sound in love and patience” (vs. 2)
- **Older women** – “Not given to much wine” (vs. 3)
- **Younger men** – “Sound speech that cannot be condemned” (vs. 8)

2. Different enemies threaten more at different stages...

- Stages of Bible history
 - *Egyptian “gods” - Josh. 24:14*
 - *Canaanite “gods” - Judges 2:12*
 - *Apathy, Discouragement - Haggai*
 - *Spiritual Pride - Matthew 23*
 - *Judaizing teachers - Galatians*
 - *Gnosticism - 1 John, 1,2 Corinthians*
 - *Persecution - Revelation*

2. Different enemies threaten more at different stages...

- In “recent” history - known disciples:
 - 1800 - 1860 - *Denominations*
 - 1860 - 1900 - *Prosperity, Desire to copy denominations*
 - 1900 - 1950 - *Infighting*
 - 1950 - 1970 - *Prosperity, Desire to copy denominations*
 - 1970 - 2000 - *Infighting*
 - 2000 - *Worldliness*

3. Different generations often fear different enemies

Christians over 50 often fear...

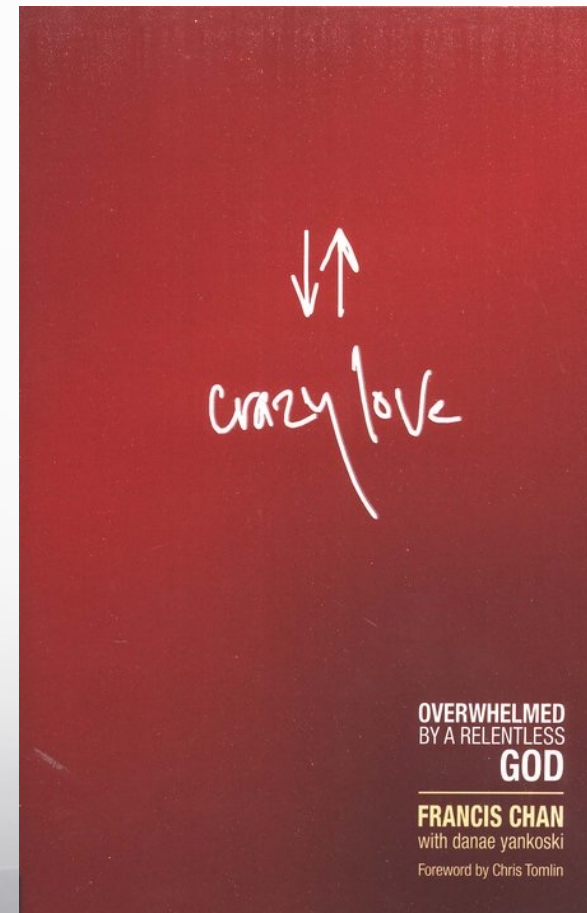
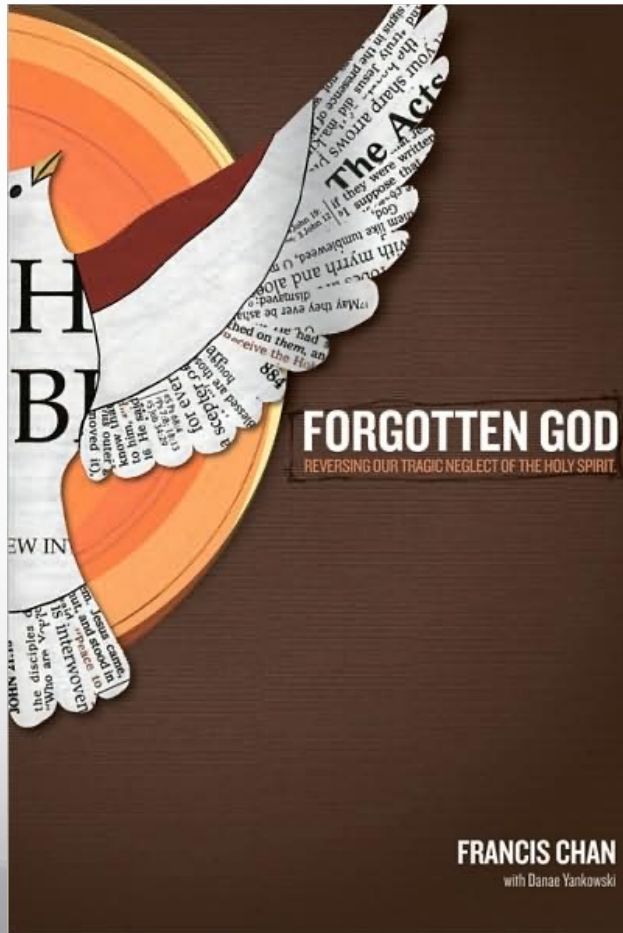
- **Denominational error**
- **“Institutionalism”**
- **“Liberalism”**

3. Different generations often fear different enemies

Christians under 40 often fear...

- **Overemphasis on externals**
- **Pharisaism**
- **Under emphasis on God's grace
and mercy**

3. Different generations often fear different enemies



4. The enemy that “gets us” is usually the one we don’t fear.

Numbers 13:32, 33 -

- ...“All the people whom we saw in it *are* men of *great* stature.”
- “There we saw the giants ... and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.

4. The enemy that “gets us” is usually the one we don’t fear.



4. The enemy that “gets us” is usually the one we don’t fear.



- **1 Jn 2:16 – “the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life,”**

Satan's 10 most effective weapons

10. Antireligious scientific theories

9. False religions

8. Party spirit among Christians

7. Spirit of presumption

6. Postmodernism

Satan's 10 most effective weapons

5. Materialism

4. Comfortable Christianity

**3. Worldliness (TV, movies,
entertainment culture)**

2. Lust of flesh, pornography

1. Pride/selfishness, lack of love

Enemies Beyond Our Comprehension

- **Eph. 6:12** “...powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.”

Enemies Beyond Our Comprehension

- But God has not left us defenseless - *Ephesians 6:14*
- 18 - The armor of God
- Our greatest defense - A fervent love for God