

## God's Litmus Test

### John 10:10

**10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.**

**How many times have we heard this scripture preached on? How many times have we read it on our own?**

**The thief (the devil) comes to steal, AND to kill, AND to destroy.**

**It has to start somewhere, and it always starts with thievery. First the devil steals; he uses circumstances to steal; he steals your love; he steals your joy; he steals your peace; he steals your long suffering/patience; the devil will not stop using life and circumstances until he ultimately steals from everyone of the nine fruits of the Spirit, which ultimately will steal your victory . . . The ladrón (thief) being the ultimate pickpocket will not leave you empty; the love he stole is replaced with contempt/hate; the joy is replaced with sadness/depression; the peace is replaced with despair, and long suffering (slowness in avenging wrongs Thayer's Definition) is replaced with vengeance/retribution; victory is replaced with defeat . . . Don't you remember after you took on His name in baptism, and were filled with His Spirit, how confident you felt? You knew you and your Jesus could tackle anything or anyone. Ultimately, the ladrón steals your confidence; that is why the writer of Hebrews admonishes us to:**

### Hebrews 10:35

**35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.**

**36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.**

**Cast away our confidence (same Greek word used for *boldly* in Hebrews 4:16). Because if we lose our confidence in God, or our relationship with God . . . the ladrón moves to step 2.**

**Stealing is never enough with him; he then kills. He kills your trust in God; he kills your trust in the ministry; he kills your trust in your brothers and sisters in the church; he kills your prayer life; he kills your devotion to God which allows him to move to step 3.**

**Ultimately he's out to destroy everything, destroy your relationship with God, destroy your relationship with the man of God, destroy your relationship with the saints of God, destroy your relationship with your family. He's out to destroy everything you touch and hold dear.**

**Jesus says, I AM COME that they might have LIFE . . . and that they might have it MORE abundantly!!!!**

**How would our walks with God, our church relationships, our familial relationships be enhanced if we asked ourselves this simple question: what I am fixing to do or say? Is it going to steal from my relationship with my God or my family or bring life to it?**

**If it doesn't pass God's litmus test, why would we even want to entertain it?**

**RPS**