

*let us also lay aside every  
encumbrance and the sin  
which so easily entangles us*  
**Hebrews 12:1**

## Store In My Heart

### Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my  
feet And a light to my path.

This Psalm speaks of the  
authors love for the Word of  
God. In this section he declares  
the guidance that God's Word  
gives to our life.

It is not difficult to see that  
we live in a world filled with  
darkness. Even in a physical  
sense many of the places we go  
would be hard to navigate if we  
did not have some sort of light  
to help us see the way. Without  
the light of God's Word we  
would never be able to make a  
successful journey through this  
world. We need God's Light in  
our life daily.

We must see the Word of God  
as that which shows the way  
we need to travel. It will  
illuminate the various pitfalls  
that may be before us and  
show us the Way our Savior  
made to lead us from sin to  
salvation. Let The Word shine a  
light upon the path you travel!



# Swarmed By Sin

## Zeke Flores

When we lived in Baytown Texas, spring was the time of year when termites swarmed looking for a place to form a new colony. Formosan termites head out about dusk this time of year and usually swarm around light sources (outdoor porch lights, etc). There can be thousands of the creepy little critters that gather and crawl all along the outside of a building looking for a way in. Usually they die in the attempt so you're left with a bunch of little termite bodies littering the ground around doors and windows. Worse, if they find a way in (and they will), you'll find dozens of dead termites on the floors and countertops in your house, usually near windows and doors. Eww.

As soon as we saw a single termite flying around, my wife and I immediately turned off all the lights and shut the blinds. See, we know that when they detect some light, they'll get all their little termite buddies and form a termite cloud around it. We didn't want them to find a way in. We knew they can squeeze through a space as thin as a dime so we tried to thwart their invasion as much as we could.

Is there a spiritual lesson to this? You bet your sweet termite swarm there is. See, everyday we're "swarmed" by opportunities to sin. It's all around us: the temptation to cut corners at work, the enticement to let our eyes linger on someone's body, the lure to join in with the crowd in questionable activities. The list goes on and on and it's a constant struggle.

## Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

Church of Christ  
1512 Tanner Street  
Malvern, AR 72104  
(501) 332-8806

## Find Us Online

preacher@tannerst.com

tannerst.com  
FB @TannerStCoC

## For Our Information

John Ragsdale is to have eye surgery this week. Betty Ragsdale has been dealing with a lot of pain in her shoulders.

Camille Matthews is back home from the hospital after getting nutrition via IV last week.

Tami Melton is still having a lot of pain from her cancer and treatment is limited.

Tonight we start with 1Kings 7:38.

Wednesday we begin in 1Timothy 2.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

Temptation usually comes on strongest during our weakest moments. When we're at the limit of our patience, we may lash out at someone in red-hot anger. When we're particularly lonely, we may reach out for an illicit relationship. When we're offended by someone, we might spread some critical gossip about them. Like the termite swarm, sin doesn't come in where there are walls and barriers, it comes in the little crevices and cracks in our character. Then when it's in, it leaves a mess in its wake.

There's a better way. Seal up the cracks; block the crevices. Don't allow your weaknesses to rule your character, instead, work to keep temptation from overcoming you by learning from your mistakes and building up your defenses. It only takes a little sin to do a lot of bad.

As for future termite swarms, we'll keep the lights off for a few nights and keep the doors and windows tightly shut against the nightly swarm to keep the infestation down to minimum. I hope we'll do the same with sin.

*"Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts."* **Romans 13:13-14**

(I thought this article fit well with the lesson I presented last week. All of the sins that can be listed under sexual immorality seem to sneak in the cracks and crevices when they overtake the child of God. They begin a little at a time and just whittle away at our resolve and character.

Of course those aren't the only sins that "swarm" us. We are constantly beset by the things of this world. Our human minds are attracted to the things around us and we must constantly battle against the pull of sin. Whenever one is surrounded by something a little of it is likely to get on them. Just think back to those summers hauling hay. Did you ever make it through the day without getting hay inside your clothes?

This is why it is so important for us to regularly study in the Word. It is the only thing that can help us "cleanse our self" of the sin that surrounds us. Keep filling your mind with God's Word and it will be much harder for sin to stick to you. DLH)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!