

## LAW RESOURCE

### HOW HAS GOD PROVIDED FOR DELIVERANCE FROM EVIL WITH THE LAW OF CRYING OUT?



Bettmann Newsphoto

**The attempted murder of President Reagan (pictured above) provides a somber reminder to be ready at all times to respond wisely to an attacker.**

Criminal attacks by one person against another became the immediate result of the fall of Adam and Eve. Their firstborn son carried out an unprovoked attack against his brother and murdered him in the field. (See Genesis 4:1–8.) God has given some very precise laws to punish various types of attacks. However, He has also given clear instruction to those who are attacked as to how they should respond during an assault.

### The crime of kidnapping

**Kidnapping** is carrying a person away against his will through the use of unlawful force. This crime can include seizing and holding a person for the purpose of carrying him away later. The California courts, for example, determined that a person who took a motorist at knifepoint only fifty feet away from his car and held him against his will was guilty of kidnapping.

Even if a bystander prevents a kidnapper and his victim from reaching the kidnapper's destination,

the kidnapper is still guilty of committing the crime.

A kidnapper does not have to use actual physical force. The mere threat of physical harm to the victim is sufficient for indictment in this crime.

If a man induces a girl into his car for a legitimate purpose, such as driving her home from a baby-sitting job, and then takes her elsewhere, he is guilty of kidnapping accomplished by fraud.

### • The Federal Kidnapping Act

Charles Lindbergh won fame in 1927 by being the first man to fly nonstop across the Atlantic Ocean. Five years later his twenty-month-old son, Charles Jr., was kidnapped from the family home. The little boy was later found murdered. Subsequently his kidnapper was found, convicted, and executed in 1936.



Library of Congress

**Charles Lindbergh  
(1902–1974)  
The kidnapping of his  
son outraged the nation.**

This well-publicized kidnapping resulted in the “Lindbergh Law,” which made kidnapping a federal offense if the victim were taken across state lines or if the U.S. Postal Service were used for ransom demands.

In 1956 Congress strengthened this law by allowing the Federal Bureau of Investigation to work on any kidnapping case after twenty-four hours.

### The penalty for kidnapping

God demands swift judgment on the person who is guilty of kidnapping.

**“And he that stealeth a man, and selleth him, or if he be found in his hand, he shall surely be put to death” (Exodus 21:16).**

God allows no discretion to the court when it comes to kidnapping. The death penalty for kidnapping is restated in Deuteronomy 24:7.

**“If a man be found stealing any of his brethren of the children of Israel, and maketh merchandise of him, or selleth him; then that thief shall die; and thou shalt put evil away from among you.”**

## The crime of abduction

Laws against **abduction** are designed to protect girls under the legal age (usually eighteen years). Any person taking or detaining an underage female with or without force against her consent is guilty of the crime of abduction.

Some states hold that a girl under legal age is incapable of consenting; thus, taking her for an unlawful purpose is a crime, whether or not she consents. The crime of abduction can, therefore, be committed by enticement, persuasion, or other inducements.

## The crime of assault and battery

**Assault** is a threat to do bodily harm by someone whose ability to carry out the threat is such that the victim feels he is in imminent danger.

One does not have to be physically touched to be assaulted. Yet, there must be some imminent physical act of violence such as the pointing of a gun or the showing of a knife or raising a club.

A person who aims a gun at a crowd may be found guilty of assault of every person in the crowd.

**Battery** is an act of violence that accomplishes what an assault threatens to do.

Inflicting unauthorized force is essential to battery; however, injury is not required. The slightest wrongful touching constitutes battery, and the touching is not restricted to the body or clothing. When a manager of a Texas motel snatched away a patron's dinner plate in a "loud and offensive manner," he was held guilty of touching and battery.

The force of battery can be indirect. It does not need to be aimed at the victim. An Illinois court ruled that a person who struck and broke a glass door during an argument committed battery because a piece of the glass flew into the eye of another person.



ASSAULT

BATTERY

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If a man swings at another person and misses, he is guilty of assault. However, if he strikes the person, he is guilty of assault and battery.

## The penalty for assault and battery

God requires various punishments for those who inflict bodily harm to others. If assault and battery results in death of the victim, the aggressor "... shall be surely put to death" (Exodus 21:12).



"And if men strive together, and one smite another with a stone, or with his fist, and he die not, but keepeth his bed: If he rise again, and walk abroad upon his staff, then shall he that smote him be quit: only he shall pay for the loss of his time, and shall cause him to be thoroughly healed" (Exodus 21:18-19).

"If men strive, and hurt a woman with child, so that her fruit depart from her [i.e., premature birth], and yet no mischief follow [i.e., damage to baby]: he shall be surely pun-

ished, according as the woman's husband will lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges determine. And if any mischief follow, then thou shalt give life for life, Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, Burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe" (Exodus 21:22-25).

## The crime of rape

The legal definition of **rape** is "the unlawful, carnal knowledge of a female by force and against her will." Scripture uses the phrase, "he knew her," to refer to a physical relationship.

If an underage girl consents to an immoral relationship, the man is still guilty of **statutory rape**. When a girl is of legal age, the term **seduction** is used to distinguish from rape.

Whereas in **seduction** the female is persuaded to consent, often by promises of marriage, rape is committed by force and without a woman's consent.

## **The penalty for rape**

If a man forces a married woman to have an immoral, physical relationship with him, God commands that he shall be put to death. (See Deuteronomy 22:25.) If a single man entices or forces an unmarried woman to have a physical relationship with him, "... he shall surely endow her to be his wife. If her father utterly refuse to give her unto him, he shall pay money according to the dowry of virgins." (Exodus 22:16-17). (See also Deuteronomy 22:28-29.)

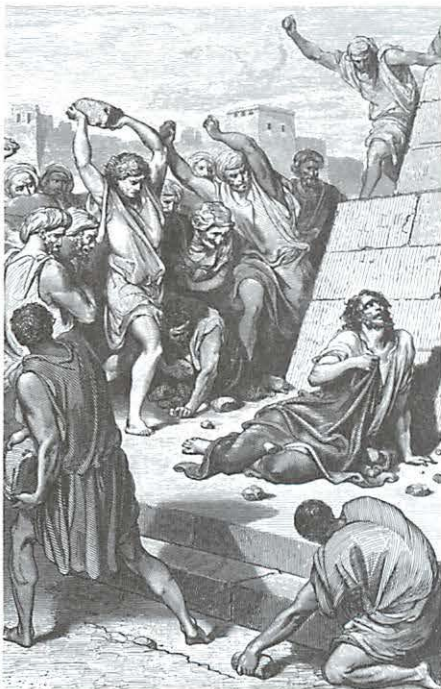
## **The law of crying out**

God has established some very strict guidelines of responsibility for a woman who is attacked. She is to cry out for help. The victim who fails to do this is equally guilty with the attacker.

"If a man be found lying with a woman married to an husband, then they shall both of them die.

"... And ye shall stone them with stones that they die; the damsel, because she cried not. ..."  
(Deuteronomy 22:22,24).

## **Ways that one who is being attacked can cry out for help**



Doré Bible Illustrations

**Those in Israel guilty of adultery were usually stoned to death.**

If you are ever attacked by one who intends to do harm to you, there are several ways that you can cry out for help. Here are five such ways:

## **1 CALL FOR HELP.**

In recent years, women have been advised that it is safer for them to cooperate with one who would morally attack them than to offer resistance. This counsel not only violates Scripture, but it also has been shown to be inaccurate, as illustrated in the following account.

### **How screams in the night and a verse of Scripture changed the outcome of an attack**

"I was wakened out of my sleep by the screams of a woman in distress. I looked at my watch and saw that it was after 11:00 p.m. As I looked out the bedroom window of our two-story house, it was raining very hard, and I couldn't see anyone. All seemed to be quiet.

"I thought I must have been having a bad dream, but just as I started to turn away from the window to go back to bed, I once again heard the screams. This time I realized they were coming from between the buildings of the church I pastored next door.

"As I put on my slippers and coat, I awoke my wife and asked her to keep a watch on things from the window. On the way out of the house I grabbed a flashlight and then headed for the church. All this time the screams continued.

"As I rounded the corner of the church, I wondered to myself, 'What am I getting myself into?' Then I thought, 'Maybe I shouldn't get involved.'

"The instruction of Deuteronomy instantly came to mind, and I realized I could not turn back, for it was this woman's responsibility to cry out for help, and it was my God-given duty as a man to help her.

"I also realized that if the woman who was screaming were my wife or one of my daughters, I would be very grateful to some man for taking the risk of getting involved in order to help them in their time of need.

"When I saw the struggle, I yelled out to the man, 'What do you think you're doing?'

"Immediately the man jumped up and said, 'Everything is all right.' I responded, 'Oh, no it's not!' and shone the light directly in his face.

"He turned at once and fled. Then a poor little high school girl, the same age as my daughters, jumped up and said, 'Thank you for coming!'

"I said, 'I hope I got here in time.' To this she responded, 'Sir, you did, you just barely did.'"

## Observations

- Notice how powerful the "weapon" was that the pastor used to frighten away the attacker. God reveals that men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil, "*for every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved*" (see John 3:19–20). This evil man attacked at night and fled the light.
- In this case the screams of the girl saved her from defilement and possible physical harm. However, even if she had not been rescued in time, there still would have been benefit to her in crying out. She would have avoided guilt because she had followed the requirements of Scripture to prove her innocence.

## 2 CRY OUT TO GOD FOR HELP.

### How the victims of assault and battery learned the power of the name of Jesus

#### Case One:

"While I was visiting a friend, a man came into her house, stole her money, and began beating her. I was shocked. It all happened so suddenly. I grabbed the man and tried to pull him away, but he kept right on beating my friend.

"In desperation, I cried out to the Lord for help, saying, 'Jesus! Jesus!' The man instantly stopped and looked at me. After a long, long pause, he said, 'I'm sorry.' He then gave the money back and went away."

#### Case Two:

"Although I had attended the Basic Seminar and had learned the concept from God's Word to call aloud to God for help when in trouble, I had never had the occasion to use it.

"Then one afternoon, I was approached by a strange man. Immediately the Spirit brought the idea of calling on God aloud, and I began to call out. 'Oh God, help me! Please, Lord Jesus, help me!' There was no one else around or even in sight. However, when I called aloud to our Lord, He was faithful to His promise.

"The man backed off as if a Power were pushing him away! He murmured for me to go on, and then he walked off as if in a daze. Praise our Lord!"

## Observations

- Crying out to God for help produces the fear of the Lord in the attacker. Evil men carry out their wicked deeds because "... *there is no fear of God before [their] eyes*" (Psalm 36:1). It is only by the fear of the Lord that men depart from evil. (See Proverbs 16:6.)
- By calling upon the Lord, we are engaging the power of God against the power of evil. This is important since "... *we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places*" (Ephesians 6:12).



Bible Art Series, Standard Publishing, Cincinnati

- There is power in the name of Jesus. This power was demonstrated as the mob came to arrest Jesus in the garden. When He identified Himself, they fell backwards to the ground. (See John 18:3–6.)
- God commands us to cry out to Him whenever we are in trouble, not just to scream for help. Notice what should be related to our cry in the following verses:

**"When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God is for me. In God will I praise his word: In the Lord will I praise his word.**

**In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me. Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee" (Psalm 56:9–12).**

In many other passages we are given instructions such as the following: "*Lord, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee*" (Psalm 141:1).

### 3 REBUKE THE ATTACKER.

#### *How a midnight sermon stopped a would-be attacker*

A woman was startled one night by an intruder who broke into her apartment. The attacker stated his intentions, and she replied, "You'll have to kill me first because I've given my body and my life to the Lord." The intruder appeared startled; then he backed away and demanded money. Fumbling through her purse, the woman could find only two dollars. The man became angry until she got her Bible, turned the light on, and read aloud, "... the wages of sin is death . . ." (Romans 6:23). For the next fifteen minutes she reproved him with Scripture and told him of the wrongfulness of man's deeds. She then told him to leave, and he obeyed.

On the way out he spotted a large family Bible and threw the two dollars on it. As he left, the woman thanked God for His deliverance and prayed for the man.

#### **Observations**

- This woman had made previous decisions which were of tremendous value to her when she was attacked. By clearly and forcefully informing her attacker that she had dedicated her body to the Lord in accordance with Romans 12:1–2, she not only brought him face to face with the name of God, but she also made it known that were he to carry out his evil work, he would be stealing that which belongs to God.
- The woman was willing to give him what money she had, because that is temporal. **However, the defilement of one's body is worthy to be fought against to the death.** This is the testimony of Daniel, who purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself. (See Daniel 1:8.)
- The woman brought double light to the situation when she turned on a lamp and opened her Bible. Just as there is power in the name of Jesus, there is great authority in the Word of God. By hearing Scripture the attacker was having to answer to that Greater Authority.

When Potiphar's wife tried to entice Joseph to enter into an immoral relationship with her, he rebuked her by his commitment to God's authority: "... how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:9).

### 4 ASK GOD TO REBUKE THE ATTACKER.

#### *How a hedge of thorns pricked the heart of a telephone intruder*

"After attending the Basic Seminar a few years ago and hearing the advice on how to deal with attackers, I decided to use it in dealing with obscene phone calls.



Ewing Galloway

"Prior to this time, I had tried to handle the phone calls my way. I would tell them off or argue or just hang up on them. But they knew I was upset, and they would just call back.

"I decided to bring God into the conversation when I received these phone calls. The next time I received an obscene phone call, I told the caller that Jesus loved him and died for him. The caller was taken by surprise and quickly hung up.

"One night, however, I was awakened by another obscene phone call. This time the caller would not quit when I told him the same things about the Lord that I had told the previous caller. Finally, I was at loss for words. Then I remembered what I was taught at the Seminar about praying a hedge of thorns to bind Satan. So I prayed to Jesus out loud to bind Satan in this man's life so that his eyes could be opened to recognize his sin and see Christ's love for him.

"When I finished praying, there were a few seconds of silence, and then he quietly said, 'I am sorry' and hung up."

#### **Observations**

- Obscene phone calls can be particularly difficult to deal with, because the intruder is shielded from view and is usually encouraged when he gets a reaction from his victim. Such calls should be reported to the telephone company so they can be traced.

- The victim was wise to begin by talking to the intruder about the Lord. However, when he refused to be deterred by that action, the next appropriate step was to ask God to rebuke him.
- Praying a hedge of thorns around the intruder and asking God to bind and rebuke Satan in the name and through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ would not only alert the intruder to the reality of Satan, but would also free him to respond to God.

## 5 WITNESS TO THE ATTACKER

### How the power of the Gospel disarmed a potential killer

As a woman got into her car, a wild-looking man approached her with a gun, demanded her money, and ordered her into the passenger's seat. As they drove off, the woman began praying out loud. Suddenly the man began to sob and talk about his unhappy past.

A deep peace came over his intended victim, and she began to pray for him that God would release him from the power of Satan. She then read Scripture passages to him and explained to him how he could become a Christian.

Finally, he pulled over to the side of the road, bowed his head, and prayed, "Jesus, I am sorry for everything I have ever done. Please save me." He then emptied the bullets out of his gun, gave them to the woman with the promise that he was going to be different, and left.

### Observations

- By witnessing to her attacker, this woman fulfilled the requirements of Proverbs 3:6: "In all your ways, make Christ known, and He will direct your steps" (paraphrase).
- This woman was wise in praying for her attacker and binding Satan in his life before trying to share the Gospel with him. These preliminary steps are consistent with the instruction of Mark 3:27:  
*"No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house."*
- One of the first needs in a time of attack is to have inward peace, since the fear of man brings a snare (see Proverbs 29:25), but perfect love casts out fear (see I John 4:18). Without inward peace, the

woman would not have been able to convince her attacker that he, too, could experience the peace of God that surpasses human understanding.

## PROJECT 1

Check the following items to determine how prepared you are to respond wisely to one who would attack you.

- ☐ 1. Have you dedicated yourself to God?  
(See Romans 12:1.)
- ☐ 2. Do you know what provokes attacks?  
(Evaluate dress and friends.)
- ☐ 3. Have you purposed to resist attackers?  
(See Psalm 4:3 and Daniel 1:8.)
- ☐ 4. Do you know how to pray a hedge of thorns?  
(See the *Basic Seminar Workbook*.)
- ☐ 5. Do you know how to present the Gospel?  
(See Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, and 10:9–13.)
- ☐ 6. Do you know how to contact the police?  
(Memorize the emergency number in your area.)

## PROJECT 2

How would you respond to the following letter?

"Last November, I was assaulted. I cried out to God for deliverance, but it did not stop the attack. How should I respond to this after hearing about all the others who were supernaturally delivered from evil?"

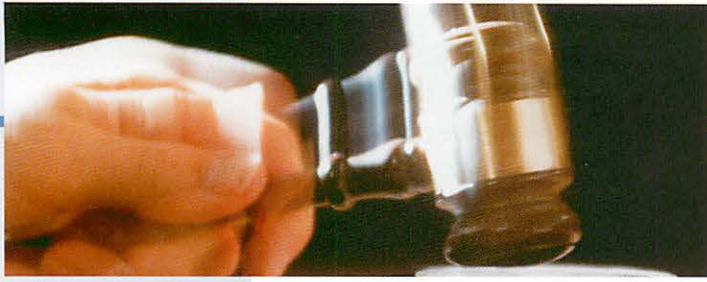
Read Hebrews 11:32–40.



Doré Bible Illustrations

**The ultimate deliverance from evil is a more glorious resurrection to eternal life.**

Date completed \_\_\_\_\_ Evaluation \_\_\_\_\_



# Law Resource

## How Has God Provided Crying Out for Deliverance From Evil?



*Courtesy of Minnesota Historical Society*

Federal laws against kidnapping bear the name of the aviator Charles Augustus Lindbergh, 1902–1974, whose son was kidnapped.

Criminal attacks by one person against another resulted from the fall of Adam and Eve. Their firstborn son carried out an unprovoked attack against his brother and murdered him in the field. (See Genesis 4:1–8.) God has given precise laws to punish various types of attacks. He also has given clear instruction to those who are attacked, regarding how they should respond during an assault. (See Deuteronomy 22:23–27.)

## The Crime and Penalty of Kidnapping and Abduction

Kidnapping is carrying a person away against his will through the use of unlawful force. This crime can include seizing and holding a person for the purpose of carrying him away later. The legal definition is “the crime of seizing and taking away a person by force or fraud, often with a demand for ransom.”

If a bystander prevents a kidnapper and his victim from reaching the kidnapper’s destination, the kidnapper may still be guilty of committing the crime. A kidnapper does not have to use actual physical force. The mere threat of physical harm to the victim is sufficient for indictment in this crime.

If a man persuades a girl to get into his car for a legitimate purpose, such as driving her home from a baby-sitting job, but then takes her elsewhere, he is guilty of kidnapping accomplished by fraud.

In 1927, Charles Lindbergh won fame by being the first man to fly alone, nonstop, across the Atlantic Ocean. Five years later his twenty-month-old son, Charles Jr., was kidnapped from the family home. The little boy was later found murdered. His kidnapper was subsequently found, convicted, and executed in 1936.

This well-publicized kidnapping resulted in the “Lindbergh Law,” which made kidnapping a federal offense if the victim was taken across state lines or if the U.S. Postal Service was used for ransom demands.

In 1956 Congress strengthened this law by allowing the Federal Bureau of Investigation to work on any kidnapping case that remained unsolved after twenty-four hours.

Laws against abduction are specifically designed to protect girls under legal age

(usually eighteen years). For example, any person taking or detaining an underage female with or without force, against her consent, is guilty of the crime of abduction.

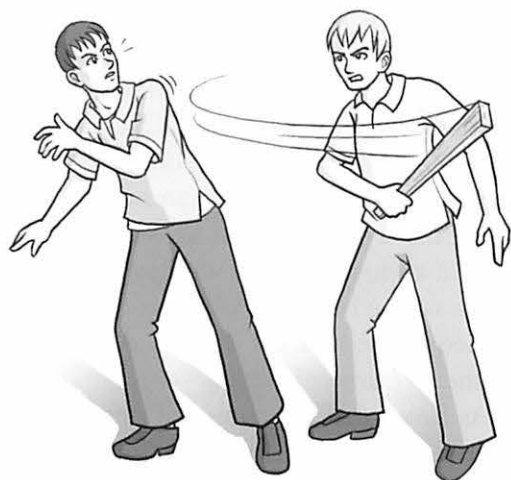
Some states hold that a boy or girl under legal age is incapable of consenting; thus, taking a child for an unlawful purpose is a crime, whether or not he/she consents. The crime of abduction can, therefore, be committed by enticement, persuasion, or other inducements.

God demands judgment on the person guilty of kidnapping, allowing no discretion to the court when it comes to this crime. The penalty for kidnapping is stated in Deuteronomy 24:7: "If a man be found stealing any of his brethren of the children of Israel, and maketh merchandise of him, or selleth him; then that thief shall die; and thou shalt put evil away from among you."

## The Crime and Penalty of Assault and Battery

Assault is a threat to do bodily harm by someone whose ability to carry out the threat is such that the victim feels he is in imminent danger.

One does not have to be physically touched to be assaulted. Yet, there must be some threatening physical act of violence, such as pointing a gun, showing a knife, or raising a club.



Assault

A person who aims a gun at a crowd may be found guilty of assaulting every person in the crowd.

Battery is an act of violence that accomplishes what an assault threatens to do. Inflicting unauthorized force is essential to battery; however, injury is not required. The slightest wrongful touching constitutes battery and is not restricted to the body or clothing.

The force of battery can be indirect; it does not need to be aimed at the victim. For example, a court ruled that a person who struck and broke a glass door during an argument committed battery because a piece of the glass flew into the eye of another person.

God requires various punishments for those who inflict bodily harm upon others. If assault and battery result in death of the victim, the aggressor "shall be surely put to death" (Exodus 21:12).

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"If men strive, and hurt a woman with child, so that her fruit depart from her [premature birth], and yet no mischief follow [damage to mother or baby]: he shall



Battery

If a man swings a club at another person and misses, he is guilty of assault. However, if he strikes the person, he is guilty of assault and battery.

Victoria Wang



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## The Crime and Penalty of Rape

A legal definition of *rape* is "the unlawful, carnal knowledge of a female by force and against her will." Scripture uses the phrase *he knew her* to refer to a physical relationship.

If an underage girl consents to an immoral relationship, the man is usually guilty of seduction rather than statutory rape. Until the late 1900s, seduction was a statutory crime, when the female was of legal age. This is no longer the case.

Whereas in seduction the female is persuaded to consent, often by promises of marriage, rape is committed by force and without a woman's consent.

If a man forces a married woman to have an immoral, physical relationship with him, God commands that he shall be put to death. (See Deuteronomy 22:25.) **If a single man entices or forces an unmarried woman to have a physical relationship with him, "he shall surely endow her to be his wife. If her father utterly refuse to give her unto him, he shall pay money according to the dowry of virgins"** (Exodus 22:16-17).

(See also Deuteronomy 22:28-29.)

## The Law of Crying Out

**God has established guidelines of responsibility for one who is attacked. When a woman is attacked, she is to cry out for**

**help. The victim who fails to do this is considered guilty, even as the attacker is guilty.**

"If a man be found lying with a woman married to an husband, then they shall both of them die . . . **If a damsel that is a virgin be betrothed unto an husband, and the man . . . lie with her; then ye shall stone them with stones that they die; the damsel, because she cried not . . . and the man, because he hath humbled his neighbour's wife . . .**"

(Deuteronomy 22:22, 24).

## Ways to Cry Out for Help

If you are ever attacked by one who intends to harm you, there are several ways you can cry out for help. Here are five such ways:

### 1 Call for help.

**Some women have been advised that it is safer for them to cooperate with one who would morally attack them than to offer resistance.**

**This counsel not only violates Scripture, but it is not valid, as illustrated in the following account.**

### How did screams and a verse of Scripture change the outcome of an attack?

"I was wakened out of my sleep by the screams of a woman in distress. I looked at my watch and saw that it was after 11:00 P.M. As I looked out the bedroom window of our two-story house, it was raining very hard, and I couldn't see anyone. All seemed to be quiet.

"I thought I must have been having a bad dream, but just as I started to turn away from the window to go back to bed, I once again heard the screams. This time I realized they were coming from between the buildings of the church I pastored next door.

"As I put on my slippers and coat, I awoke my wife and asked her to keep a watch on things from the window. On the way out of the house I grabbed a flashlight and then headed for the church. All this time the screams continued.

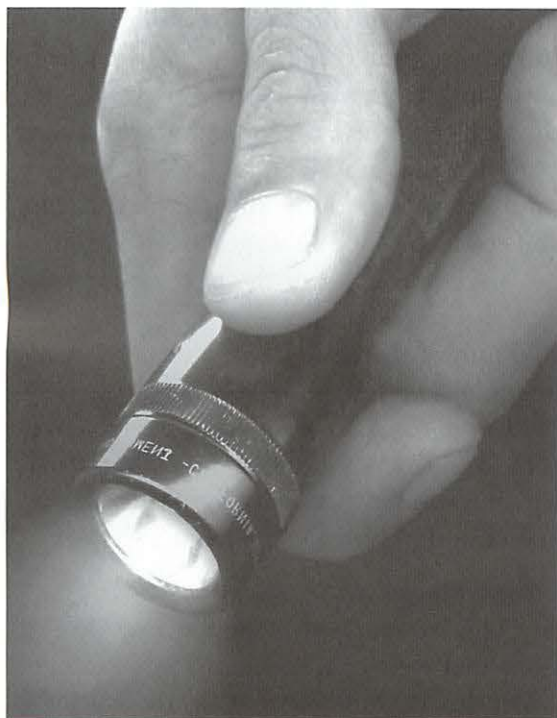
"As I rounded the corner of the church, I wondered to myself, 'What am I getting myself into?' Then I thought, 'Maybe I shouldn't get involved.'

"The instruction of Deuteronomy instantly came to mind, and I realized I could not turn back, for it was this woman's responsibility to cry out for help, and it was my God-given duty as a man to help her.

"I also realized that if the woman who was screaming were my wife or one of my daughters, I would be very grateful to some man for taking the risk of getting involved in order to help them in their time of need.

"When I saw the struggle, I yelled out to the man, 'What do you think you're doing?'

"Immediately, the man jumped up and said, 'Everything is all right.' I responded, 'Oh, no it's not!' and shone the light directly in his face.



"He turned at once and fled. Then a poor little high school girl, the same age as my daughter, jumped up and said, 'Thank you for coming!'

"I said, 'I hope I got here in time.' To this she responded, 'Sir, you did, you just barely did.'"

### Observations

Notice the powerful "weapon" the pastor used to frighten away the attacker. God reveals that men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil, "for

every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved." (See John 3:19–20.) This evil man attacked at night and fled from the light.

In this case, the screams of the girl saved her from defilement and possible physical harm. However, even if she had not been rescued in time, there still would have been benefit from her crying out. She would have avoided guilt because she had followed the requirements of Scripture to prove her innocence.

## 2 Cry out to God for help.

How did the victims of assault and battery learn the power of the name of Jesus?

### Case One

"While I was visiting a friend, a man came into her house, stole her money, and began beating her. I was shocked. It all happened so suddenly. I grabbed the man and tried to pull him away, but he kept right on beating my friend.

"In desperation, I cried out to the Lord for help, saying, 'Jesus! Jesus!'

The man instantly stopped and looked at me. After a long, long pause, he said, 'I'm sorry.' He then gave the money back and went away."

### Case Two

"Although I had attended the Basic Seminar and had learned the concept from God's Word to call aloud to God for help when in trouble, I had never had the occasion to use it.

"Then one afternoon, I was approached by a strange man. Immediately the Spirit brought the idea of calling on God aloud, and I began to call out.

'O God, help me! Please, Lord Jesus, help me!' There was no one else around or even in sight. However, when I called aloud to our Lord, He was faithful to His promise.

"The man backed off as if a Power were pushing him away! He murmured for me to

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Evil men carry out their wicked deeds because "there is no fear of God before their eyes" (Romans 3:18). It is by the fear of the Lord that men depart from evil. (See Proverbs 16:6.)

By calling upon the Lord, we are engaging the power of God against the power of evil. This is important since "we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Ephesians 6:12).



There is power in the name of Jesus. This power was demonstrated as the mob came to arrest Jesus in the garden. When He identified Himself, they fell backwards to the ground. (See John 18:3–6.)

We have the opportunity to cry to God when we are in trouble, not just scream out for help. Notice what should be related to our cry in the following verses.

"When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God is for me. In God will I praise his word: in the

LORD will I praise his word. In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me. Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee" (Psalm 56:9–12).

In many other passages we are given instructions such as these: "LORD, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee" (Psalm 141:1).

## 3 Rebuke the attacker.

### How did a midnight sermon stop a would-be attacker?

A woman was startled one night by an intruder who broke into her apartment. The attacker stated his intentions, and she replied, "You'll have to kill me first because I've given my body and my life to the Lord." The intruder appeared startled; then he backed away and demanded money. Fumbling through her purse, the woman could find only two dollars. The man became angry until she got her Bible, turned the light on, and read aloud, "The wages of sin is death . . ." (Romans 6:23). For the next fifteen minutes she reproved him with Scripture and told him of the wrongfulness of his deeds. She then told him to leave, and he obeyed.

On the way out he spotted a large family Bible and threw the two dollars on it. As he left, the woman thanked God for His deliverance and prayed for the man.

### Observations

This woman had made previous decisions that were of tremendous value to her when she was attacked. By clearly and forcefully informing her attacker that she had dedicated her body to the Lord, she not only brought him face to face with the name of God but also made it known that if he were to carry out his evil work, he would be stealing something that belonged to God.

The woman was willing to give him what money she had, because money is temporal. However, the defilement of her body was worthy to be fought against to the death. Daniel is a powerful example of one who purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself, and God blessed him. (See Daniel 1:8.)

Furthermore, this woman brought double light to the situation when she turned on a lamp and opened her Bible. Just as there is power in the name of Jesus, there is great authority in the Word of God. By hearing Scripture, the attacker was forced to answer to that Greater Authority.

When Potiphar's wife tried to entice Joseph to enter into an immoral relationship with her, he rebuked her by his commitment to God's authority, saying, "... How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:9).

## 4 Ask God to rebuke the attacker.

### How did a hedge of thorns prick the heart of a telephone intruder?

"After attending the Basic Seminar a few years ago and hearing the advice on how to deal with attackers, I decided to use it in dealing with obscene phone calls.

"Prior to this time, I had tried to handle the phone calls my way. I would tell them off or argue or just hang up on them. But they knew I was upset, and they would just call back.

"I decided to bring God into the conversation when I received these phone calls. The next time I received an obscene phone call, I told the caller that Jesus loved him and died for him. The caller was taken by surprise and quickly hung up.

"One night, however, I was awakened by another obscene phone call. This time the caller would not quit when I told him the same things about the Lord that I had told the previous caller. Finally, I was at a loss for words. Then I remembered what I was taught at the Seminar about praying a hedge of thorns to bind Satan. So I prayed to Jesus out loud to bind Satan in this man's life so that his eyes could be opened to recognize his sin and see Christ's love for him.

"When I finished praying, there were a few seconds of silence, and then he quietly said 'I am sorry' and hung up."

## Observations

Obscene phone calls can be difficult to deal with, because the intruder is shielded from view and is usually encouraged when he gets a reaction from his victim. Such calls should be reported to the telephone company so they can be traced.

The victim was wise to begin by talking to the intruder about the Lord. However, when he refused to be deterred by that action, the next appropriate step was to ask God to rebuke him.

Praying a hedge of thorns around the intruder and asking God to bind and rebuke Satan in the name and through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ would not only alert the intruder to the reality of Satan; it also would free him to respond to God.



*Courtesy of Katie Pleckham*

## 5 Witness to the attacker.

### How did the power of the Gospel disarm a potential killer?

As a woman got into her car, a wild-looking man approached her with a gun, demanded her money, and ordered her into the passenger's seat. As they drove off, the woman began praying out loud. Suddenly the man began to sob and talk about his unhappy past.



Binding Satan is one of the most effective tools against Satan's schemes that a believer has.

A deep peace came over his intended victim, and she began to pray that God would release him from the power of Satan. She then read Scripture passages to him and explained to him how he could become a believer in Christ.

Finally, he pulled over to the side of the road, bowed his head, and prayed, "Jesus, I am sorry for everything I have ever done. Please save me." He then emptied the bullets out of his gun and gave them to the

woman, with the promise that he was going to be different, and left.

### Observations

By witnessing to her attacker, this woman fulfilled the requirements of Proverbs 3:6. "In all your ways, make Christ known, and He will direct your steps" (paraphrase).

This woman was wise in praying for her attacker and binding Satan in his life before trying to share the Gospel with him. These preliminary steps are consistent with Mark 3:27: "No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house."

One of the greatest needs in a time of attack is to have inward peace, since the fear of man brings a snare (see Proverbs 29:25), but perfect love casts out fear (see I John 4:18). Without inward peace, this woman would not have been able to convince her attacker that he, too, could experience the peace of God that surpasses human understanding.

## Project:

1. Check the following items to determine how prepared you are to respond wisely to an attacker.

1. Have you dedicated yourself to God?  
(See Romans 12:1.)
2. Do you know what provokes attacks?  
(Evaluate dress and friends.)
3. Have you purposed to resist attackers?  
(See Psalm 4:3 and Daniel 1:8.)
4. Do you know how to pray a hedge of thorns? (See the *Basic Seminar Workbook*.)
5. Do you know how to present the Gospel?  
(See Romans 3:23, 5:8, 6:23, and 10:9-13.)
6. Do you know how to contact the police?  
(Memorize the emergency number in your area.)

2. How would you respond to the following letter?

"Last November I was assaulted. I cried out to God for deliverance, but it did not stop the attack. How should I respond to this after hearing about all the others who were supernaturally delivered from evil?"

Read Hebrews 11:32-40. Discuss why God would let it happen. (See *Effective Counseling Course*, Part III.)

The ultimate deliverance from evil is a more glorious resurrection to eternal life.

Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Evaluation: \_\_\_\_\_