

THE SNARE OF FEAR

-Ryan Parsons-

I was once gifted a Bola from Argentina. If you have never heard of a Bola, it is a South American tool comprised of several balls connected by a strong cord which entangles the limbs of the quarry when thrown. Trust me, they are no joke. Please don't ask if I almost knocked myself out the first time I tried to throw it. Scripture also talks about entangling tools.

Proverbs 29:25

*The fear of man lays a snare,
but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe.*

Similar to the function of a Bola, a snare entraps and holds the prey in one location. This in turn makes it easier for the hunter to end its life. In the real world, a snare is a trap for catching birds or animals which typically has a noose of wire or cord. In the same way, Satan places snares trying to entrap us spiritually. One of those snares is fear. Fear entangles a man's soul and puts him in great peril. It is no wonder that fear is referenced so many times in the Gospels (ex. Luke 12:4-7).

Along with the Gospels, the wisdom literature teaches us that trusting the Lord releases (offers freedom and safety) from fear. However, there seem to be scary things to fear around every corner of life. How do I escape the snare of fear?

Hebrews 12:1-2

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

The answer is: Keeping our eyes fixed and focused on Jesus!

Keep Studying,
Ryan