

# *Deliverance Is For Today*

By Randal Stephens

Know this: You're in a war, a spiritual battle that won't end until it's won or you're dead, so you must fight. You don't have a choice.

Christ wants you to be free, to *walk* free, but in a war, the enemy won't stop battling. Deliverance is for today because the only freedom you have is the freedom you are walking in *right now*.

Even if you're not fighting him directly, he is still fighting you. In fact, he's laid mines in territories he knows you have to cross. Your enemy can't be everywhere so when he lays down mines, he doesn't stay there to watch them. He doesn't have to. He knows you'll pass by.



And if your focus is not on the battle, or even if it's on finding your enemy and not on your terrain, you will hear that 'click', and the mine is engaged. You've fallen into his trap and the only thing left to do is get blown up.

Deliverance is for today.

These days you can't go to the internet, open your phone or turn on your television without being assailed with destructive images. Homosexuality is accepted, violence is graphic and sadistic, and pornography is mainstream; it's a new show coming on NBC. And the minefield is your mind. It's the territory over which you battle and the field on which it is being fought. And whoever controls that territory controls the rest of you.

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An alcoholic doesn't say, "I'm down to three beers a day"; there's no credit in that. He knows his recovery is tentative. Each day is another minefield and it's the only one that matters. He counts his days because he knows he's still "in recovery". But you're not. So don't count your days, because if you're in Christ, you walk in true freedom. But you must walk.

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The enemy is not original or intelligent, but he is clever. When you're fighting a battle, he'll invade your camp and steal what you do have<sup>1</sup>, if you lag behind, he'll cut you off<sup>2</sup>. He wants to steal, kill and destroy<sup>3</sup> and he won't stop. Ever.

There's nowhere he can't get to you because you're fighting on his territories. And they're laced with mines.

Today's minefield is new so don't rest on yesterday's victories and don't fight tomorrow's battles. Stay vigilant and walk because you already have the victory. But you must navigate the minefields. And you're not dead yet.

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<sup>1</sup> I Samuel 30:1-31

<sup>2</sup> Deuteronomy 25:17-19

<sup>3</sup> John 10:10

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