

## UV PROTECTION

It is "fun-in-the-sun" time in America. Summer always puts us in Vacation mode. The camps are beginning. The excitement of going new places and seeing new things hold a lot of promise for these hot weeks of the year. As the backyard cookouts and visits to the park increase, out comes to sun tan creams and lotions. Protection from the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) sunlight is a must. Those harmful rays from the sun have the ability; not only to "fry" a body, but over a time can cause the body's ability to resist disease to break down. So, we slap on the suntan lotion!

Have you heard about the need for that other kind of UV Protection? If you think sunlight UV is bad, wait until you hear about these. Talk about destructive; this kind of UV can kill you much quicker than the other kind. The FDA has no authorized creams or lotions for protection from it.

So where do these different kind of UV rays appear? Well, they can pop up most anywhere. In the summer they will show up especially between 9pm and 6:15am. But they do not just show up at night, they can even do their dirty work during the day. Sometimes they show up at work; sometimes at the beach or the park; sometimes during a game; sometimes on vacation; and sometimes right in your own back yard.

Just what are these destructive kinds of UV that we need to consider? Well, these are different from the ultraviolet light rays from the sun. They do not even come from the sun, nor do they come from any "light" source. This kind of UV does not come from the light, but from darkness; not the moon, and not the night. This kind of "ray" is not "ultraviolet," but "ultra-violent" in nature. This kind of UV comes from the influence of the devil, the prince of the "domain of darkness," Colossians 1:13 (ESV). His rays are potent, and of a devouring nature, like poisonous darts, 1 Peter 5:8. And the devil is a master marksman, he never misses a bull's-eye.

So, how do we protect ourselves from the devil's harmful "ultra-violent" and harmful rays this summer? First, we must realize that we are subjects of a higher calling. Peter said, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light," 1 Peter 2:9. That means you are special to the Lord, and you should NEVER, NEVER, EVER, forget that.

Second, we must learn to self-medicate. No, not with Coppertone or Johnson and Johnson! This kind of medicine does not come out of a tube or bottle. This comes out of self-determination to do right no matter what. The apostle said, "The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light," Romans 13:12(ESV)

Being out of town on vacation is not an excuse for being unfaithful to God. When packing for that great summer trip, make sure to get everything you will need to make it a safe and saving summer. Do not forget the lotions, the

creams, the Bible, the prayer, and most of all the commitment to Christ in all situations.

Have a nice summer!

—Scott