Higher Ground
KEEPING A SPIRITUAL FOCUS IN THIS MATERIAL WORLD

The Pull

- To Come Back Into the World
  - By Offering Worldly Lusts
    1ST JOHN 1:8; 2ND PETER 2:18-20
  - Even by Those Close to Us
    1ST KINGS 11:4

The Pull

- To Give Up and Give In
  - Through Persecutions

HEBREWS 10:34, 35; 2ND TIMOTHY 3:12

  - Through False Gospels

GALATIANS 1:6-9

The Pull

- To Not Take Spiritual Things So Seriously
  - To Be Content with Lukewarmness

REVELATION 3:15, 16

  - To Not Love God With our All

MATTHEW 22:37

The 'Rope'

- Focus on Self
  - "Don't you think God wants me to be happy?"

MATTHEW 19:9

  - Even Many Religious Leaders

MATTHEW 10:24, 25

The 'Rope'

- Focus on the Pleasure, Not the Consequences
  - From the Beginning

GEN. 3:1-6; ROM. 3:23; PROV. 14:12

  - The Strategy for Each One of Us

JAMES 1:13-15

The 'Rope'

- Focus on the Worldly View, not God's View
  - The 'Majority' View

JOHN 7:45-47

  - We Are To Not Be Conformed

ROMANS 12:2; EXODUS 23:2

Resisting the Pull

- Cut the Rope [Put Away Worldly Desires]
  - Desire the Holy Instead

AMOS 5:15; PSA. 97:10; 1ST THESS. 5:21, 22; LEV. 19:2; 1ST PET. 1:15, 16

  - Put to Death the Old Man

COLOSSIANS 3:5-10

Resisting the Pull

- Don't Grab the Rope [Don't Make It Easy]
  - Resist the Temptations

JAMES 4:7; 1:15

  - Take the Way of Escape

1ST CORINTHIANS 10:!3; MATTHEW 4:1-11

Resisting the Pull

- Watch Your Step [Don't Be Unaware]
  - Our Adversary is Active

1ST PETER 5:8; JOB 1:7; 1ST JOHN 5:19

  - He Is A Deceiver

JOHN 8:44; GEN. 3:1-6/1ST TIM. 2:14