

In Scripture, the term “device” or “trap” can have multiple meanings depending on the context. It can refer either to:

- A mechanical object or tool, often designed to capture or ensnare something, or
- A man made invention used to accomplish a particular task especially in war or construction.

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1. Trap as a Symbol of Destruction for the Wicked

One place where the term appears is in the book of Job. Bildad, one of Job’s friends, speaks about the destiny of the wicked:

*“A trap seizes him by the heel; a snare lays hold of him.”* Job 18:9 (ESV)

Here, the “trap” symbolizes divine judgment. Bildad compares the fate of the wicked to someone walking into an ambush. Just as a trap grabs its victim unexpectedly, so does destruction come upon those who walk in evil. It is a poetic way of warning that no one escapes the consequences of sin.

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2. Trap as a Metaphor for Words

Earlier in the same chapter, Bildad uses the term again:

*“How long will you hunt for words? Consider, and then we will speak.”*

Job 18:2 (ESV)

In the original Hebrew and Swahili rendering, Bildad is using figurative language. He accuses Job of ensnaring himself with his own words like someone setting traps with speech. The idea is that careless or defensive words can become a snare that brings confusion or even self condemnation.

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3. Devices as Military Technology

Another use of the word refers to literal machines or inventions. In 2 Chronicles 26, King Uzziah is praised for strengthening the military defenses of Jerusalem with advanced technology:

*“In Jerusalem he made machines, invented by skillful men, to be on the towers and the corners, to shoot arrows and great stones. And his fame spread far, for he was marvelously helped, till he was strong.”*

2 Chronicles 26:15 (ESV)

These were early forms of war machines, similar to catapults or ballistas. They reveal how human invention can be used for both protection and warfare, and how God blessed King Uzziah with wisdom and help until pride eventually led to his downfall (see 2 Chronicles 26:16).

Are You Prepared for Christ’s Return?

Friend, the times we live in are urgent. The coming of Jesus Christ is nearer now than ever before. The Bible warns us:

*“For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.”*<sup>1</sup> 1 Thessalonians 5:2 (ESV)

If Christ were to return today, would you be ready?

What benefit is there to gain the whole world but lose your soul?

*“For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?”*

Mark 8:36 (ESV)

If you haven’t yet received Jesus as your Lord and Savior, today is the day of salvation.

*“Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.” Hebrews 3:15 (ESV)*

Repent from sin. Turn to Christ. Believe in His death and resurrection, and you will be saved.

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Would You Like to Pray the Prayer of Salvation something like this:

“Lord Jesus, I come before You a sinner. I believe You died for my sins and rose again. I ask for Your forgiveness and invite You into

my life as Lord and Savior. Wash me clean and help me walk with You from today onward. Amen.”

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May the Lord bless you.

Have you received Christ today? Walk in His light. Prepare your heart. Live for Him.

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