

A Worry for Riggers

Steve Green, who sang six years with Bill and Gloria Gaither, tells about getting to know some of the work crews in the large auditoriums where their concerts were held.

The Gaithers prefer concerts-in-the-round, which means extra work for the “riggers,” who walk the four-inch rafter beams – often 100 feet above the concrete floor – to hang sound speakers and spotlights. For such work, understandably, they are very well paid.

“The fellows I talked to weren’t bothered by the sight of looking down 100 feet,” says Green. “What they didn’t like, they said, were jobs in buildings that had false ceilings – acoustical tile slung just a couple of feet below the rafters.

“They were still high in the air, and if they slipped, their weight would smash right through the flimsy tile,” Green said. “But their minds seemed to play tricks on them, lulling them into carelessness.”

We live in a world roamed by Satan, whose business is not so much in scaring us to death as persuading us that the danger of a spiritual fall is minimal. We see too many examples, on television and in the newspapers, of people in high places who fall victim to temptation. Their descent exacts a high price.

– Beecher Hunter