

How To Successfully Resist The Devil

It is the will of God for every believer to learn the keys that will keep them in a place of victory over the devil's workings in their lives. The Bible never tells us to fight the devil, but rather we are to fight the "good fight of faith" (I Timothy 6:12). God refers to this fight as the "good" fight because every time we fight, we win!

James 4:7-8

(7) Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (8) Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you...

In this passage of scripture I've noted above, we find several action phrases, three of which you must do in order to successfully resist the devil on all points in your life.

1. "Submit yourself therefore to God"

Submission is the first step in defeating the enemy. Submission can occur on many different levels in life. Primarily it is a surrendering of your will to the will of another that is able to lead, assist, empower, enable, and aid you in life. Very often people subject themselves to failure because they fail to submit. How does one submit to God? It happens through prayer (1 John 5:14-15) and meditation of the Word (Joshua 1:8). By these two powerful forces, you enable God to hear and answer your prayers and you lead a path towards your own success and prosperity.

2. "Resist the devil"

After one has truly submitted, then he or she is supernaturally empowered to resist the devil. You cannot do this until you properly and wholly submit to God. How does one resist the devil? This happens when one becomes steady in his or her stand with God (Ephesians 6:13-14). In addition resisting the devil includes the declaring of your authority over the works of the devil (Luke 10:19). A close analysis of this scripture will reveal that the word "power" shows up twice in this passage. The first word "power" is the Greek word authority, whereas the second word "power" is the Greek word ability. So when you put this together we learn that through Christ, we have been given authority over all satanic ability.

3. "Draw nigh to God"

The closer you are to God, the farther away you are from the enemy. Most people have a tendency to run from God when they get themselves into trouble. But God desires for you to run to Him. God desires to help you in your day of trouble (Psalms 50:15). God will give you wisdom to deal effectively with your circumstance or adversity. He desires you to operate in His peace and rest (Matthew 11:28-30).

---Norman Thomas, Jr.