

RESIST THE DEVIL

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Foundation: In this life of faith there are few things more important to learn than: 1) You need to resist the devil 2) What to resist/What is the devil 3) How to resist the devil

- I. **Resist the devil**—*Js4:7*—Submit to God, resist the devil and He will flee from you; **AC**—Stand firm against; **CJ**—Take a stand against the Adversary; **VO**—Fight against the devil and his schemes; **MS**—Yell a loud no to the devil; **NRV**—Stand up to; **YL**—Stand up against the devil
- A. As a believer, you have a God-given responsibility to resist the devil
1. He won't make you—He won't not make you submit, He won't make you resist
 2. You resist the devil—God does not do this for you, other people can't do this for you, other people's prayers can't do this for you
 3. God has made you responsible for this—Don't try to make someone else responsible for what God made you responsible for
- B. It is a very select group of people from whom the devil is fleeing
1. Who is the devil fleeing from?—He's not fleeing from every Christian, every church goer, every Bible reader, everybody who prays (you can pray to God and never resist the devil)
 2. If you enjoy victory over the devil, it'll be because YOU resist him
- C. The reason many believers don't resist is because of the strain of resistance—Something is pushing on you and you have to push back – There's discomfort
1. The grittiness of resistance—Something is pressing on you and you say, "If I'm drowning in despair, destruction and sorrow I WILL resist and never yield to the devil or anything he tries to do in my life."
- II. **Resistance is the believer's response to the devil**—*1Pt5:8*—*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: ⁹Whom resist steadfast in the faith; AM*—Resist him, be firm in your faith [against his attack – rooted, established, immoveable]; **ICB**—Refuse to give in to the devil; **WE**—Fight against the devil; **TP**—Take a decisive stand against him and resist his every attack with strong, vigorous faith; **DRA**—Whom resist ye, strong in faith; **TL**—Stand firm when he attacks; **NIRV**—Stand up to him. Remain strong in what you believe; **WEB**—Withstand him steadfast in your faith
- A. Resisting the devil is a fundamental of faith—Faith yield's to God, submits to God, agrees with God and therefore faith resists the devil; A person in faith, living by faith resists the devil on a regular basis
- B. The devil is in the Earth and looking to devour us—We can't change that so what do we do with him? What do we do about this?
- C. Resistance is the answer to the devil and anything he tries to do in your life—It is the only appropriate response to the devil and to anything he tries to do in your life
1. When we come under attack, we are to resist the devil and whatever he is trying to do—What do you do with depression, disease, poverty, fear, weakness, guilt, shame, anxiety?—You resist, you take your stand against these things and you say no, not in my life
 2. What's your response?—EX: He's trying to eat you up with confusion

III. **Resist anything the devil tries to do in your life (wiles of the devil)-Eph6:10-**
*KJ-Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles (plans, schemes, tricks) of the devil; [**ICB-Fight against the devil's evil tricks**; **ISV-Stand firm against the devil's strategies**; **PH-Successfully resist all the devil's methods of attack**; **MSG-Stand up to everything the Devil throws your way**] ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. ¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand (resist) in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand therefore; **CEB-Defend yourself**; **YL-That you may be able to resist in the day of evil** **AM-So that you will be able to [successfully] resist and stand your ground in the evil day [of danger], and having done everything [that the crisis demands], to stand firm [in your place, fully prepared, immovable, victorious]***

A. **Resist the devil's attacks-JS4:7-VO-Fight against the devil and his schemes; 1Pt5:8-AM-Be firm in your faith against his attack**

1. **All kinds of things can be resisted**-Thoughts, feelings, lies, fear, anxiety, depression, sickness, poverty – You can take your stand against these things and say no you don't, not in my life

B. **We are to do everything we can to resist**-I'm doing all I can to resist – Our focused in this fight is to resist and not yield

1. **I have to resist**-I don't have to get myself unconfused, but I do have to resist confusion; I don't have to get myself undepressed, but I do have to resist depression; I don't have to get myself healed, but I do have to resist sickness and disease – It didn't say having done all to heal yourself, heal yourself, it said having done all to stand, stand