

RESIST THE DEVIL

What Does It Mean To Resist The Devil?

- I. **What does it mean to resist the devil?**—*Js4:7*—Submit to God, resist the devil and He will flee from you; **VO**—Fight against the devil and his schemes; **MS**—Yell a loud no 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: ⁹ Whom resist steadfast in the faith; **TP**—Take a decisive stand against him and resist his every attack with strong, vigorous faith; **Ep6:10-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) of the devil; ¹² For we wrestle (strive, contend) 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; **AM**—So that you will be able to 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 definition—*Strongs*—To stand against, that is, oppose: - resist, withstand; *Thayer*—1) To set oneself against, to withstand, resist, oppose; 2) To set against; *Rick Renner*—To stand against or to stand in opposition to; The attitude of one who is fiercely opposed to something and therefore determines that he will do everything within his power to resist it, to stand against it, and to defy its operation; *W1828*—1) Literally, to stand against; to withstand; hence, to act in opposition or to oppose; A dam resists a current of water passively by standing unmoved and interrupting it's progress; 2) To strive against; Resistance—*W1828*—The quality of not yielding; Act in opposition to the pressure of another
- B. To resist is to take a stand against someone/something—You tell them/it, “No you don't! Not in my life!”
- C. To resist to push back against (act in opposition)—To resist the devil is to push back against him and anything he tries to do in your life
- D. To resist is to not yield—*Yield*—*W1828*—1) To allow; concede 2) To resign; to give up 3) To comply with 4) To give way; not to oppose; 5) To give place
- II. **When the devil attacks or tries to do anything in our lives we do not lay down and just yield (comply) and we don't just beg God to do something—WE push back**
- A. You don't draw back, you push back—*Hb10:35*—Cast not away (throw off) therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. ³⁶ For ye have need of patience (endurance, perseverance, fortitude), that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. ³⁷ For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. ³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back (cower, shrink, let down; **CEV**—Turns back; **GNV**—Withdraw himself), my soul shall have no pleasure in him. ³⁹ But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul
1. This is referring to leaving the faith—They were under pressure, things got tight and some drew back, yielded to the devil, laid down and left the faith
 2. When things get tough we don't draw back, we push back
 3. Drawing back, laying down, yielding does not please God—*Ps78:40*—How oft did they provoke (irritate) him in the wilderness, and grieve (displease) him in the desert;⁴¹ Yea they turned back and tempted God and limited the Holy One of Israel
 4. God likes faith and faith doesn't draw back—Ex—“They make take our lives, but they'll never take our freedom.”—**2Cor4:8-9**
- B. Jesus didn't draw back he pushed back—He took a stand against him, told him no, pushed back against him and would not yield to him—**Mt4:4** But he answered and said, It is written **7** Jesus said unto him, It is written again **10** Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written...**11** Then the devil leaveth him

C. In the valley of the shadow of death David didn't draw back-*Ps23:1-The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. ²He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. ³He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. ⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. ⁵Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anoints my head with oil; my cup runneth over.⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

1. **NOTE:** David wrote this Psalm during of the most dangerous times in his life. He was fleeing from King Saul and his army. David hid himself in a barren, desolate, forest called Hareth, which means a parched and dry like baked earthenware. God did not cease to be David's source. He soaked this dry forest with moisture, which had the appearance of the Heaven On Earth, making even the grass and the leaves of the forest tender and edible. This revealed David that God provides at all times even when the chances of survival seem to be non-existent.

D. If circumstance are negative push back-*Hab3:17-Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labor of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:¹⁸ Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation (prosperity, deliverance).¹⁹ The Lord God is my strength (wealth, substance, goods) and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places; **AC-** Make me to walk and make [spiritual progress] upon my high places [of trouble, suffering]*

E. If you're heart tries, if a wrong thought comes, if you experience negative feelings you push back-*Jn14:27, 2Cor10:5, Ep4:26, Ph4:4*

III. **Resisting the devil, pushing back against him and what he's trying to in your life is the only way to enjoy victory over him**-*Js4:7-CEB-He will run away from you; CEV-He will run from you; VO-Fight against the devil and his schemes. If you do, he will run away in failure*

A. Many under attack can't seem to get over because **THEY** never push back- They talk about their problem, ask people to pray for them, ask God to do something - None of that is **THEM** resisting the devil