

RESIST THE DEVIL

Authorized To Resist The Devil

- I. **When God told us to resist the devil he gave us both the authority and the ability to do it – To resist his every attack and run him off**–*Js4:7-Submit to God, resist the devil and He will flee from you; 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; Ep6:11-Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil*
- A. God's words are not just encouragement, they are empowerment–*Gn1:28, Jn14:27, Rn1:16, Hb4:12*
- B. In the command (God's Words) is both the authority and ability to carry it out
1. His words give you the authority to do it–*Authority is the right to command or act*
 2. His words empower (enable) you to do it–*Give you the ability to do it*
- C. We can't do anything of ourselves, but when God tells us to do something, that gives us both the authority and the ability to do it
1. He knew he didn't have authority or ability of himself to walk on water–*But when Jesus spoke God's Word "come" that authorized and empowered him– Mt14:28-If it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said come*
 2. Jesus knew he needed authorization and empowerment from Heaven–*Jn5:19-The Son can do nothing of himself but what he sees the Father do ³⁰I can of my own self do nothing as I hear I judge*
- D. We can resist the devil and his attacks because God gave us authorization
- II. **God has given the believer authority over the devil – You couldn't resist the devil and see him flee if you didn't have authority over him**–*Js4:7*
- A. If we have authority to cast out the devil, we have authority to resist him–*Mk16:17-These signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast (eject, send away) out devils*
1. This authority is for them that believe–*It's the first sign mentioned*
- B. God gave them authority to shut the devil down, but if they don't resist him with that authority when he attacks they'll have problems–*Lk10:19-I give unto you power (ability, delegated influence, authority, jurisdiction, right, strength) to tread on serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt you; AM-Listen carefully: I have given you authority [that you now possess] to tread on serpents and scorpions and [the ability to exercise authority] over all the power of the enemy (Satan) and nothing will [in any way] harm you*
- C. He gave us authority to bind and loose, to forbid and allow–*Mt16:19-I will give unto thee the keys (power & authority) of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind (forbid, prohibit) on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven; MCV-I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; the things you don't allow on earth will be the things that God does not allow, and the things you allow on earth will be the things that God allows*
1. Keys represent authority and control–*Ex: If I'm the only one who has keys to the church then I control who gets in and who doesn't*
 2. Why did God allow it?–*Once God has authorized you to do something, He will allow what you will allow – Maybe because you allowed it*
- D. You have authority over the devil in your life–*Not everybody else's*
- III. **Where this is no revelation of authority there will be no resistance – Before you will ever resist the devil you have to recognize your authority to do so**
- A. Many don't resist because they don't believe they have authority to do so

- B. Many believe God has all the authority-When the devil attacks they ask God to do something because they believe He's the one with the authority
- C. Satan wants us to believe God has all the authority and we have none-This throws us into a passive state of unscriptural prayer not resisting him
1. Satan's tried hide the authority of the believer under hundreds of years of men's tradition and religious phrases so that we don't resist him-It's why he has tried to shove "God is control" down the throat of the church
 2. The last thing he wants you to do is resist-He preaches God is in control, ask God to do something about the devil because he knows that won't work
 3. Religious reasoning-People ask God to do something about the devil and when it doesn't work religion says keep asking and when that doesn't work they have to come up with a reason why and they say God is sovereign
- D. Don't ask God to do for you what he authorized and empowered you to do-Imagine if I gave someone the keys to the church and every time they needed to unlock or lock it they asked me to do it for them
1. If we really resist the enemy runs-It is written
 2. You take your shield and you quench them-Don't ask God to do that-**Eph6:16**-*Taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked*
 3. You shut the devil out-Don't ask God to do it-**Eph4:27**-*Neither give place to the devil*
 4. You keep yourself-**1Jn5:18**-*We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.*
 5. Why doesn't God do something about this? Why don't you?-God's given you His name, His armor, His Word, His spirit, His power, His strength, His faith and yet people are still asking him to do something while they do nothing
- E. We go to the word and find out what we are authorized and empowered to do and then we exercise that authority
1. How Jesus operated-He didn't live by petitioning The Father; He discovered what he was authorized to do and exercised His authority-Storm, Lazarus, Jairus