

HOW TO EXPERIENCE VICTORY OVER YOUR ADVERSARY

Jesus or Paul?

I. **When being attacked by the enemy Paul addressed The Father with petition-2Co12:7-Lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet (strike with fist; treat with violence; contend against) me, lest I should be **exalted above measure** (supremely exalted, increased, lifted up to great prestige).⁸For this thing I **besought** (pray, beg, ask, call to/upon) the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.⁹And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for you: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. ¹⁰Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong**

A. The enemy comes immediately to steal the Word-Mk4:15

B. The thorn in the flesh was the messenger of Satan-It's purpose was to harm him and keep him from being exalted and lifted up

C. God wants us exalted-1Pt5:6-Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty had of God that He may exalt you in due time-Js4:10-Humble yourselves in the sight of The Lord and He shall lift you up; Ps18:33-Sets me upon my high places-Dt28:1-Set you on high above all nations

D. What Paul did, did not work, was not effective-He got no results

E. What are to do with the devil-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-Eph6:10-Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the **wiles** (plans/schemes/tricks) of the devil; ¹³Take 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. ¹⁴Stand therefore

F. God corrected Paul (He wasn't doing right)-He didn't answer His prayer

1. The grace/strength was to do what He was supposed to do with the devil-Not grace to put up with the devil and hold on tight in his suffering

II. **When being attacked by the enemy, Jesus addressed the enemy with The Word-Mt4:3-When the tempter (press) came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. ⁴But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. ⁵Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, ⁶And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. ⁷Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. ⁸Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; ⁹And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. ¹⁰Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee **hence** (away with you), Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. ¹¹Then the devil **leaveth** (go away, depart) him**

A. What Jesus did worked-It was considerably different than what Paul did