

ABCD's of Deliverance

Class 1- Don't Be Scared of The Devil

Our Enemies Greatest Weakness

James 4:7 NKJV “Therefore **submit to** God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

James 4:7 Renner Interpretive Version “It is imperative that **you make the decision** to properly align yourselves under the authority of God — in a submitted position that actually provides you with protection. Being **submitted** to His authority gives you the ability to defy, oppose, stand steadfastly against, and withstand the accusing, slanderous, trap-setting behavior of the devil. In fact, he'll be so terrified of you that he'll move his feet as fast as he can to get away from you. Not only will he flee from you, he'll run like a criminal terrified of prosecution — so scared that he'll want to do all he can to put as much space between him and you as possible.”

1. Notice the pattern, **Submit** → **Resist** → **Flee**
 - a. 1 Peter, in particular, teaches us a little more about submission that I believe we will find helpful.

1 Peter 5:5-7 NKJV “Likewise you younger people, **submit** yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be **submissive** to one another, and be **clothed with humility**, for “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.” Therefore **humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God**, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”

1. **Submit to one another** → **Submit to your elders** → **Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God**
2. When we are submitted to God and to one another, we have positioned ourselves in the strength of the Body of Christ. The devil wants nothing more than to separate us from fellow believers, our pastor, and our submission to God. The Devil may not devour the one who is fully connected, and submitted in his or her proper place within the body.

Let's look at Ephesians briefly and then come back to 1 Peter...

Ephesians 6:10 NKJV “Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.**”

1. That word “**might**” has made another appearance. The mighty power of God that flows from His hand can flow through us when we submit and humble ourselves under it.

Now back to 1 Peter...

1 Peter 5:7-9 NKJV “casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. **Be sober, be vigilant;** because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.”

1. Notice, Peter references the same pattern Paul does. **Submit → Resist**

Psalms 27:1 NKJV “**The Lord is my light and my salvation**; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?”

1. Our power to defeat and resist the devil comes from the Lord. In and of ourselves, we are powerless, but through Christ we can resist him, and he will flee as one in terror. The term “**resist**” would have primarily been recognized as a military term, where an army would stand firmly against the attacks of an advancing army. When we resist, the enemy flees.

Now let’s take a look at Romans, where Paul sheds some revelation light on the victory we have in Jesus...

Romans 8:35-39 NKJV “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” Yet **in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us**. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to **separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord**.”

1. Conquerors become conquerors because they are victorious in battle.
2. Notice, the tribulations, distresses, persecutions, famines, nakedness, perils, and swords are areas of attack that the Bible says we are **more than conquerors** in.
 - a. Remember Peter said these same sufferings are experienced by the brotherhood around the world.
 - b. These attacks must be genuine sufferings that the church faced. Being more than a conqueror does not make us immune to receiving attacks, but rather gives us confidence in their outcome.
3. Remember Peter said, “**Resist him in the faith**.” Faith is our shield. It is our greatest defense when the attacks come. If you have lost your faith, you have lost your ability to defend yourself.
4. Paul then proceeds to give us a long list, including **principalities and powers**—the enemy, Satan’s cohorts. He tells us that everything in this list has no power to separate us from the love of God.
 - a. Another way you could say this is: **Satan has no power to disconnect us from our fellowship with God, mediated by Jesus Christ**.
 - b. He has no power to disconnect us from His mighty hand.

- c. He has no power to separate us from the mighty power that flows through us, enabling us to resist.
5. Why does the enemy flee when we resist? Because the power that flows in us is the same power that cast him from heaven when he tried to overthrow God. This is why we are **more than conquerors**.

Satans Fall

Ezekiel 28:12-19 NKJV “Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “You were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and **perfect in beauty**. You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes Was prepared for you on the day you were created. “You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. **You were perfect** in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you. “By the abundance of your trading You became filled with violence within, And **you sinned**; **Therefore I cast you as a profane thing Out of the mountain of God**; And **I destroyed you**, O covering cherub, From the midst of the fiery stones. “Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; **I cast you to the ground**, I laid you before kings, That they might gaze at you. “You defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities, By the iniquity of your trading; Therefore I brought fire from your midst; It devoured you, And I turned you to ashes upon the earth In the sight of all who saw you. All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; You have become a horror, And shall be no more forever.”

1. What I want to point out about Satan is that he never has and never will be able to resist the God who created him. Through the power and authority of Jesus, we can stand against him with the same authority.

Let's look at what Jesus said about our authority over the devil...

Luke 10:18-19 NKJV “And He said to them, “**I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.**”

1. That same power that came from heaven to remove Satan has been granted to us. We can trample over the power of the enemy with divine protection.