

Resist the Devil

Text: James 4:7

The following points show us how to resist the devil:

I. Resist with Prayer

... men ought always to pray, and not to faint" (Luke 18:1).

A. Satan defeats Christians because they neglect to pray. Paul admonished Christians to "pray without ceasing" (I Thess. 5:17).

B. Prayer brings victories and produces miracles. It is the Christian's power line to heaven (Matt. 21:22).

C. Christians should continue in a spirit of prayer at all times.

Prayer defeats the devil.

II. Resist with the Promises

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises" (II Peter 1:4).

A. When Jesus was tempted, He used the Word of God to defeat the devil (Luke 4:1-13). We should follow His example.

B. After selecting the promises that fit the areas of our need, we should dwell on them, memorize them, and claim them as our own.

C. We resist the devil by claiming the promises of God. When we resist the devil, the promise is "he will flee from you (James 4:7).

III. Resist with Perseverance

"But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings" (I Peter 4:13).

A. Perseverance means: "the action or condition or an instance of persevering: STEADFASTNESS -Webster.

B. Many Christians falter and fail because they do not continue with patient and persistent effort.

C. We must never give up. We must keep on keeping on. We can resist the devil with perseverance (II Tim. 2:3).

IV. Resist with Praise

"From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD's name is to be praised" (Ps. 113:3).

A. Most Christians do not praise the Lord enough. They are less than victorious.

B. Some Christians neglect to praise the Lord because they are too involved with temporal pursuits.

C. We must take time for God. When we praise the Lord, we resist the devil and receive the victory (Ps. 146:2).