

WE CHOOSE TO RESIST SATAN IN JESUS' NAME

#S269R

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Our choice to resist the devil in Jesus' Name and believe the devil is defeated is always an effective weapon against the devil. The choice is given for us to take heed (James 4:7) "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." The plan to follow is to humble ourselves before God; resist the temptation in the strength that God gives us; and then the devil must flee. If our peace is being disturbed in any way personally or in our home or elsewhere, we can resist in Jesus' Name and insist on having our peace restored because Jesus Christ paid for that for us, so the devil has to flee because he cannot stand against our Lord Jesus Christ Who defeated Satan when He rose to life.

All trouble, discouragement, depression, oppression, and strife originate from the devil. If we resist him in faith in Jesus' Name, we have been promised God's peace. When Satan is thrown into the bottomless pit, and Christ begins His millennial reign and takes control of things, then, immediately there is peace while sickness, struggles, and strife will disappear.

Even the plant and animal kingdoms are at peace. (Isaiah 11:7) "The cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox." When Satan is bound, even wild animals become docile like harmless sheep.

Our personal life will enjoy peace when the devil flees. We can experience an inner peace with no hindrance to our prayers because it is Satan who blocks the answers. Everything can be changed by just a few words, "*Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*" We can receive healing; have our peace restored; and our finances supplied.

Not everyone knows that one word 'resist' changes everything. If we are oppressed physically, 'resist the devil'; if money is short, 'resist Satan's thoughts and lies' and claim the truth and fulfillment of God's promises; if there is strife in our family, resist the devil in Jesus' Name, and the devil must leave the house. We must choose and use our opportunity to resist Satan as Scripture tells us to do and claim God's promised peace for our home and family.

Governments are supposed to protect the rights of its citizens, but an individual person can forfeit that protection by their 'free-will choice'. Someone may ask for a donation (saying they need food; or their children are hungry; or they have to get a bus to home) If we willingly give them ten dollars, no one in the government could get it back because we said Yes to the person who wanted the money.

If we had said No to that person, and they took it from us, every police officer in the city is supposed to be on our side to get the money back for us. The big difference is, we resisted when the person wanted to take something from us. If we resist the devil in Jesus' Name, the devil cannot take anything from us. If we willingly surrender our Atonement rights, he can rob us of everything.

In order for us to successfully resist the devil, we must know what belongs to us, and what rights we have, so we can claim them in faith. If we gave our consent and allowed Satan to rob us yesterday but realize we made a mistake and confess and refuse to have his oppression today, he will have to give back what he had taken from us.

Without our consent, the devil cannot rob us spiritually, nor physically and financially, nor concerning peace in our home, and he cannot take away our protection.

The devil can no longer keep or prevent us from having those things (which are God's promised blessings for us). The moment we resist Satan in Jesus' Name and say No, and we refuse to give the devil our permission, he must flee from the power of Jesus' Name.

If the owner of a property would issue an eviction notice to a tenant that they must vacate within thirty days, the laws of the commonwealth say that the person must move out of the house within that amount of time. The owner can say, "Yes the person may stay longer"; or he can say, "No they must leave". The property owner can tie the hands of the government; or he can have the *backing* of the government. It is his choice to resist or to relent.

It is much the same in divine matters as we have certain rights and privileges under the Gospel and the Atonement Blood of Christ, by which the devil has no right to enter our home or stay on the property without our consent. It is our choice to resist him and say No.

Constitutional law states that our belongings cannot be taken from us unless we 'waive our rights' and consent to things being taken. In the same way, the devil cannot rob us of our Blood-purchased rights unless we give him our consent. The moment we resist and turn away *from* the power of Satan (and turn *to* the power of God), the devil must flee; and he cannot come back without our consent.

It is our Blood-bought right through Christ's sacrificial Blood to have good health, healing when needed, protection from loss or harm, and to have every provision as needed; they are God-given rights. The devil constantly comes to ask for and take those rights away from us, and he can approach as an angel of light (as we are told 2 Cor.11:14), but when that happens it is still our choice to resist or to relent and surrender our Atonement rights in Christ to the devil.

Our peace (as promised from God) was purchased by the Blood of Christ, and Satan has no right to take it from us, nor any right to torment us spiritually, nor physically, financially, in the home, at work, or anywhere else. He must leave when we resist him in faith on the power of Jesus' Name. (The devil cannot withstand the power of God.)

(Hebr.2:14) "Since then the children referred to are all alike sharers in perishable human nature, [Jesus] Himself also, in the same way, took on Him a share of it, in order that through death He might render powerless him who had authority over death, that is, the Devil, and might set at liberty all those who through fear of death had been subject to lifelong slavery."

The devil is powerless to disturb our peace when we choose to resist and refuse to allow him to take that peace from us. Satan is not able nor permitted to torment us, nor to afflict us in our body without our consent. He has been paralyzed, so he cannot do anything to us nor take anything from us.

To successfully resist the devil, we must make a final decision to go through trusting God without compromise. If we will draw near to God, He will draw near to us and help us to resist. (James 4:8) "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."

Another Bible example is a king who resisted the devil. (1 Kings 20:1) "Benhadad the king of Syria gathered all his host together: and there were thirty and two kings with him, and horses, and chariots: and he went up and besieged Samaria and warred against it." (It was a huge military force of thirty-two heads of governments, but they could not touch Israel without Israel's consent); (and Satan cannot touch us nor enter our home without our consent.

King Benhadad sent his message to King Ahab of Israel (1 Kings 20:3) “Your silver and gold are mine, and the best of your wives and children are mine.” King Benhadad demanded that he take their money and their loved ones. (The devil says the same to us; ‘your health and your loved ones are mine; and your money is mine.’ All too often we may give our consent, and (consciously or subconsciously) answer as “The king of Israel answered, ‘Just as you say, my lord the king. I and all I have are yours.’”

It is foolish to surrender rights to a paralyzed enemy (whom Jesus conquered via His death and resurrection to Life). But the king of Israel was in no spiritual condition to know or to claim his rights. (1 Kings 20:5-6) “The messengers came again and said, “This is what Ben-Hadad says: ‘I sent to demand your silver and gold, your wives, and your children. But about this time tomorrow I am going to send my officials to search your palace and the houses of your officials. They will seize everything you value and carry it away.’”

There is an old saying that can apply here; “If you give the devil an inch; he’ll take a mile.” (It always pays to resist the devil the moment he appears.) (1 Kings 20:7-8) “So the king of Israel called all the elders of the land, and said, “Notice, please, and see how this *man* seeks trouble, for he sent to me for my wives, my children, my silver, and my gold; and I did not deny him.” And, all the elders and all the people said to him, “Do not listen nor consent.”

[In like manner we should not listen to, nor consent to, anything Satan suggests to us, or tries to put upon us. [The devil may try to tell us, ‘If you get wet you are going to catch cold’, or ‘you are going to get sick’, but we need to and must resist those thoughts, and refuse them in Jesus’ Name (so the devil cannot attack us nor our children), (and the Bible states that he will have to flee from us). The devil’s power was defeated by Jesus Christ, and he cannot stand before the power of Jesus’ resurrection to Life.

The moment that we are oppressed of body; or short of financial needs; or lacking our promised peace, or we are troubled in any way, we are to (and need to) refuse those problems in the ‘Name of Jesus’; we are to resist the devil in faith on Christ, (and the Bible says that he will flee from us).

We need to resist and insist on having our deliverance; we should “not listen or consent;” We should not surrender one thing to the devil but to claim our victory in faith and through Christ. Until we do give the devil our consent, he must flee from us.

So, we read that somehow the king of Israel was emboldened to respond negatively to Ben-Hadad and to resist his demand. (1 Kings 20:9) “Therefore he said to the messengers of Ben-Hadad, “Tell my lord the king, ‘All that you sent for to your servant the first time I will do, but this thing I cannot do.’” (He did not have to consent the first time, but at least he had then resisted those unjust demands, and he refused to give up his rights. He followed the advice of the people and elders, that was, “Do not listen or consent”—[so] the messengers departed and brought back word to him.” (Ben-Hadad).

King Ben-Hadad did not like to hear that, and he said, (1 Kings 20:10) “May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if enough dust remains in Samaria to give each of my men a handful.” The king of Israel then gave a memorable reply (1 Kings 20:11), “Tell him, ‘Let not the one who puts on his armor boast like the one who takes it off.’” (God would have the last word on who wins this battle.)

The king had made the choice to resist the enemy; he withdrew his consent. God had to be true to His Word when the king made that choice to resist. If we will choose to resist the devil and insist on our deliverance over the devil’s power, God will always be true to His

Word and grant us the victory over the enemy. (Malachi 3:6) "I am the LORD, I change not."

When Satan comes back with old sins, plans of self-life, and wrong attitudes of the past, we need to resist and insist that he flee from us as we are to say *No*, and we will *not* have that oppression by God's power and grace; and we will not consent to an illness; we will not surrender our Blood-bought rights to the devil; and so, we will not allow Satan to rob us of what Jesus paid for us on the Cross.

What God said to the king *that day*, He will say to us *this day*; (1 Kings 20:13) "Hast thou seen all this great multitude? Behold, I will deliver it into thine hand this day; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD."

We can have the same kind of results and victory in our life in this day when we resist Satan in the Name of Jesus Christ and have His almighty power to work for us just as He did for those in Bible time examples. We can be inspired to give the same kind of testimony as did Jehoshaphat, who after severe temptation and trial was taught by God to resist the devil's dark and discouraging pictures and terrible fear (when the huge host of enemy armies came against him and the rest of the Israelites). However, God inspired him to resist that temptation to surrender to the devil but instead to hear and believe the prophets' message (so the devil had to flee from him), just as we can read and believe God's Word written for us today, to believe and to place our faith on. We can be brought by God to testify of His works on our behalf as Jehoshaphat testified (Psalm 46:1-3 says) "God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; *Though* its waters roar *and* be troubled, *Though* the mountains shake with its swelling."

In the New Testament, Jesus assured us repeatedly not to fear the devil, but to 'resist him in Jesus Name', (Mark 5:36) "Be not afraid, only believe." (John 14:1) "Let not your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust in Me also." (14:27) "Let not your heart be troubled; neither let it be afraid." And (1 John 4:18) "Perfect love" (meaning of course, perfect love for Jesus Christ and His Word) "casts out fear."

(In summary) The key to our victory is written in Scripture for us (James 4:7) "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

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The First Century Gospel Church/Philadelphia

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SOME MAIN POINTS ARE:

- 1 We are to always resist Satan in Jesus' Name and to claim our Atonement rights by believing and following the Scripture which says, to 'Resist the devil, and he will flee from you'. (James 4:7).
- 2 We cannot consent to be oppressed or attacked by the devil, and Bible character examples are given to emphasize how that always worked for them when they resisted in Jesus' Name, the fear, pictures, and lies from Satan, instead to trust on God for victory.
- 3 When we (in this day) resist Satan in Jesus' Name, instead of consenting to his attacks, then without our consent the devil cannot rob us spiritually, nor physically and financially, nor concerning peace in our home, and he cannot take away our protection. The devil can no longer keep or prevent us from having those things (which are God's promised blessings for us).