

“FACING SATAN VICTORIOUSLY”
1 PETER 5:6-11

INTRO: From the time most of us were children we have heard about the devil. There are songs written about him, stories told about him, and jokes made about him, most of which are very wrong and even designed to hide his wickedness. Satan is alive and well and we all must consider how we must face him in our daily routine and come away victoriously. Why? Because Satan is our **NUMBER ONE ENEMY AND IS OUT TO DEFEAT US AT EVERY TURN.** The Christian who fails to learn how to face Satan will be Christian who fall into his traps. Unfortunately, too many Christians are doing that these days. The text before us teaches us how to FACE SATAN VICTORIOUSLY and thus we must approach the text very seriously.

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NOTE: VERSES 6 AND 7 ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN FACING SATAN VICTORIOUSLY:

1) “Humble yourself before God.” By doing so, God, Who is all powerful, will lift you up and give you the victory in His time.

2) “Cast all your care upon Him, for He careth for you.” No matter what the trial or temptation may be that comes our way, including Satanic obsessions, when we roll our burden over to the Lord, He provides all we need to have the victory and to grow spiritually.

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I. THE ATTITUDE OF THE BELIEVER VS. 8a

A. Be Sober – Be of the right mind and think properly. More specifically, **THINK BIBLICALLY.** In other words study the scriptures to see how Satan works and then think accordingly so as to be ready for the battle when it comes.

B. Be Vigilant – Be watching all of the time for the “wiles of the devil” to come your way. Never leave your guard down.

ILLUSTRATION:

II. THE ADVERSARY OF THE BELIEVER VS. 8b

“THE DEVIL”

NOTE # ONE: THE VERY MEANING OF THE WORD “DEVIL” SHOWS HIS CHARACTER. IT MEANS: “TO ACCUSE, TO MALIGN AND TO SLANDER.”

NOTE # TWO: VARIOUS NAMES ARE GIVEN FOR THE DEVIL IN SCRIPTURE THAT DESCRIBES WHO HE IS:

- 1) Satan – Adversary – Matthew 4:10
- 2) Evil one – Intrinsically evil – John 17:15
- 3) Great Red Dragon – Destructive creature – Revelation 12:3,7,9
- 4) Old Serpent – Deceiver in Eden – Revelation 12:9
- 5) Abaddon – Destruction – Revelation 9:11
- 6) Apollyon – Destroyer – Revelation 9:11
- 7) Roaring Lion – Opponent – 1 Peter 5:8
- 8) Beelzebub – Lord of the Flies – Matthew 12:26,27
- 9) Belial – Worthless – 2 Corinthians 6:15
- 10) God of this world – Controls world philosophy – 2 Corinthians 4:4
- 11) Prince of this world – Rules the world system – John 12:31
- 12) Prince of the power of the air – Control of unbelievers – Ephesians 2:2
- 13) Enemy – Opponent – Matthew 13:28
- 14) Tempter – Entices people to sin – Matthew 4:3
- 15) Murderer – Solicits people to eternal death – John 8:44
- 16) Liar – Perverts the truth – John 8:44
- 17) Accuser – Accuses believers before God – Revelation 12:10

A. The Devil's Existence

1. Satan is Real – Mentioned by every NT writer
2. Satan is a Personality
 - a. Intellect – 2 Corinthians 11:3
 - b. Emotion – Revelation 12:17
 - c. Will - 2 Timothy 2:26
3. Satan is Active – Job 1:6
4. Satan is Powerful – Isaiah 14:15-20
5. Satan is Judged – Ezekiel 28:16-19; Revelation 20:2

B. The Devil's Efforts

“SEEKS WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR”

(“Devour” means to “drown” or to “gobble up”)

NOTE: ALL OF THE DEVIL'S EFFORTS ARE DESIGNED TO DESTROY GOD, GOD'S WORK AND GOD'S PEOPLE. SATAN HAS ALWAYS WANTED TO “EXALT HIMSELF ABOVE GOD” AND WILL WORK TOWARD THAT UNTIL HIS FINAL JUDGMENT.

1) Isaiah 14:12-15

2) 1 Thessalonians 2:1-4

3) Revelation 20:1-10

1. Satan actively Seeks for People to Destroy – Job 1:6 ff.
2. Satan is NO Respector of Persons – He even sought to destroy Christ
-Matthew 4:1-11 cp. Luke 4:1-13
3. Satan never quits.
4. Satan seeks to Destroy – John 10:10a

ILLUSTRATION:

III. THE ACTION OF THE BELIEVER VS. 9

“WHOM RESIST STEADFAST IN THE FAITH.”

1) To “Resist” means to “TO STAND UP AGAINST.”

2) To be “Steadfast in the faith” means to “REMAIN FIRM IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH.”

NOTE: The way to RESIST THE DEVIL is not with special formulas or words directed at him and his demons, but to CONTINUE TO LIVE ACCORDING TO GOD'S TRUTH ALL OF THE TIME. As the Christian practices sound doctrine and obeys the Word of God Satan is withstood. When that happens, RESISTING SATAN occurs by:

- A. By putting on the Whole Armor of God – Ephesians 6:10-17
- B. By putting the Battle in God's Hands – Jude 9
- C. By submitting to God – James 4:7

NOTE: The words in verse 9b, **“THE SAME AFFLICTIONS ARE ACCOMPLISHED IN YOUR BRETHREN THAT ARE IN THE WORLD”** means that all Christians go through similar attacks from Satan who never stops trying to devour them.

ILLUSTRATION:

NOTE: VERSES 10 AND 11 ARE PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGING WHEN FACING SATAN VICTORIOUSLY:

- 1) The “GOD OF ALL GRACE” will grant victory after the trouble. Vs. 10
- 2) The “GOD OF ALL GRACE” will get the Glory for the victory. Vs. 11

LESSONS:

Satan is real and very strong and cannot be defeated in and by our own strengths. Our strengths are NOTHING in his sight! But, when faced with God's way and God's power, Satan can be defeated in our lives

Note: 2 Corinthians 10:3-6