

# YOUR ADVERSARY THE DEVIL — PART 2

Sunday, May 31, 2026 -- 1 PETER series -- msg 35 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

**1 PETER 5:8-9**

English Standard Version (ESV)

*8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.*

## REVIEW & CONTEXT:

- 1) The Apostle Peter writes to churches scattered across the Mediterranean world who are being persecuted for their faith in Jesus.
- 2) Peter calls Christians to hopeful perseverance, holy living and Christ-centeredness.
- 3) Peter is wrapping up his letter with final exhortations.
  - Humble yourselves — before God and others.
  - Be vigilant because the devil is real and terrible.
- 4) Last week we studied the names of the devil, the actions of the devil in the OT and NT and the devil's extreme opposition to God Himself.

## DEALING WITH THE DEVIL: Four Commands

- 1) **STAY ALERT.** vs 8 *Be sober-minded; be watchful.*

### Notice what Peter does *not* say:

- He does not say to fear the devil.
- He does not say to obsess over the devil.
- He does not say to deep dive on demons.
- He does not say to seek out the devil 'behind every bush'.

### Instead Peter commands you to:

- think clearly
- stay awake spiritually
- do **not** become careless

Maybe Peter had a little bit of PTSD... He learned this lesson the hard way!  
In the Garden of Gethsemane after the last Passover supper...  
Jesus takes his disciples there to pray knowing His hour had come.

**MATTHEW 26:41** Jesus told his disciples...

*Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation.  
The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*

8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

## 2. RESIST HIM. vs 9 **"Resist him, firm in your faith."**

Peter does *not* say...

- Negotiate with him.
- Reason with him.
- Experiment with temptation.

One main response... **RESIST!**

**Peter** is not alone.

**James** (half brother of Jesus and leader of the Jerusalem church) says something similar.

**JAMES 4:7-8** (notice the order of this process)

*Submit yourselves therefore to God.*

*Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.*

**Paul** extensively deals with our spiritual war and warfare.

### **EPHESIANS 6:10-18**

**10** Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. **11** **Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.** **12** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. **13** Therefore take up **the whole armor of God**, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. **14** Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, **15** and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. **16** In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; **17** and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, **18** praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

We don't chase Satan. We don't try to engage Satan.

We stand with Christ in holiness and advancing His kingdom.

One of your greatest tools for resistance is worship!

- when you are alone
- in gathering with God's people

**Worship of Christ and the fellowship of the saints** builds resistance to the devil's lies and attacks. (know the truth and stand in the truth)

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### 3. FIGHT WITH TRUTH. vs 9 "*Resist him, firm in your faith.*"

Peter does *not* say...

- stand firm in your feelings
- stand firm in your passion/zeal

It is FAITH in the truth that overcomes the adversary.

The Apostle John writes to the early church as well...

#### 1 JOHN 5:4

*For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world.  
And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.*

#### **HOW did JESUS resist Satan?**

In Matthew chapter 4 we see the great temptations of Jesus by Satan.  
All 3 times Jesus says, 'It is written...'

**God's Word** is the truth upon which you stand and fight.

### 4. REMEMBER, YOU ARE NOT ALONE. vs 9

*Knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.*

Satan loves to make believers think...

- *Nobody understands me.*
- *Nobody else struggles like me.*
- *I am the only one.*

Here we see the absolute necessity of genuine CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY.

- church membership (belonging/accountability)
- fellowship (koinonia)
- serving together to advance God's agenda/kingdom

#### PHILIPPIANS 1:27

*Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind **striving side by side for the faith of the gospel,***