

The Connection between Grace and Resisting the Devil

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Broadcast Dates: 1/18/24-1/19/24

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Scripture References:

- James 4:6, 7, *NLT*
- 1 Peter 5:5-8
- 1 Peter 5:5-8, *NLT*
- 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
- Proverbs 23:7
- Proverbs 4:23-26, *NLT*
- Mark 4:24, *NLT*
- Galatians 2:8, 9, *NLT*

Summary:

Christians are fighting a spiritual battle against Satan, who focuses regular attacks against our minds and emotions. However, Jesus has already defeated him on our behalf; we therefore fight from a place of victory by maintaining our stance as winners. One of the most effective ways we win is to completely depend on Jesus instead of on ourselves; this indicates humility and trust in Him. The last thing the devil wants is for us to know that a spiritual battle is even being waged for control of our thoughts; he therefore uses every trick he can to deceive us into thinking there is no God, no devil, no heaven, and no hell. How we think determines whether we win or lose the fight. Wrong-thinking allows the enemy access into our lives; right-thinking reinforces our minds against his lies and suggestions. Keeping a close watch over our thought lives and letting the Word of God influence how we think keeps the enemy where he belongs—under our feet.

Notes:

1. The enemy wants us to be self-dependent; this is how he defeats us. We must resist him. To resist is to withstand and fight against.
2. Giving all our problems and worries to God, instead of carrying them ourselves, is a sign of humility.
3. The first place the enemy attacks is our minds; this is where our thinker, our feeler, and our chooser reside. Our thoughts define who we are; they also influence how we feel. We therefore must consciously think about what we are thinking about.
4. The devil operates through worldly thinking. The philosophies the world embraces contradict God's Word.

Category: grace

Keywords: resisting, devil, battle, attacks, minds, emotions, fight, thought