

1 Peter 5:8-9

How to Wisely Withstand the Wiles of the Wicked One

General Command v8

Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Twin Strategies Christians Need to Apply in Regard to Satan

1: Do Not Underrate Him

- a: Satan and his crowd is real/relevant and work to undermine faith in Christ
- b: He is sly enough to work “undercover” in most cases in the modern world
- c: Our laziness or ignorance can make us especially vulnerable to his influence

2: Do Not Overrate Him

- a: Satan is NOT Omnipresent, Omnipotent or Sovereign
- b: the focus of the Christian life must be on the Savior NOT Satan
- c: I Peter doesn't mention Satan first, second or third....but last

The Biblical Bottom Line

The best spiritual defense (against the world, the flesh and the devil) is a good offense, if/as we walk in the Light (abide in Christ) we can/will avoid spiritual darkness

Specific Command v9

But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

ONE imperative-a direct verbal command

Resist him...

TWO participles-verbal adjectives of means/telling us “how” obey the command

...by being firm in the faith (doubting our doubts as we KOTAOTLEWTINERTKOTAOTL)
...by remembering “all God's chil-ren got problems” (you are not the “Lone Ranger”)

Take This To Heart

We can wisely withstand the wiles of the wicked one by being firm in our faith and remembering that we are not alone in our problems.