

oh what a victory the devil accomplishes. We must learn to recognize the devil's schemes.

How then should we deal with the devil? Paul said we should not be ignorant but we should be understanding what the will of the Lord is for us. How should we deal with the devil? We should recognize his existence. Realize that it is a true factor not only in the world but in relation to the life of each of us. This command we find definitely given at different places, in the Bible that we should resist him. When you find yourself inclining toward evil, in being led away by your own lusts, or led away by other people trying to mislead you, resist the devil. Take a firm stand against him! Resist him. That is a command of Scripture. And something that we should remember.

But we must resist him in God's strength. James says, Resist the devil but he says before that, Submit yourselves to God. We cannot overcome the devil in our own strength. But God can give us the strength to do it if we submit ourselves to Him and if we look to Him for strength in the many situations in which it is necessary that we resist the devil. Resist him in God's strength.

We should resist him in the Name of Christ. In our own name we cannot resist him; we have no power to accomplish. But it is important that we take a stand. It is important we realize the need of resisting the devil when he would lead us over this way to compromise, over this way to be led into that which is contrary to God's will, or over this way into developing an unChristian spirit and an opinion of feeling that our opinion must always be right. These various attitudes that we can be pushed into so easily. That cut down our effectiveness, and destroy our testimony and destroy so much of what God wants to accomplish through us.

We must beware of the wiles of the devil. And we must learn to resist him because Jesus Christ at Calvary's cross destroyed the power of Satan. In principle his power is destroyed. In practice God permits him for His own purpose to continue to be an effective force in the world and he orders us to resist him.

But then we find a very specific thing where Paul tells us to stand against the devil's schemes. He tells us to take the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. The greatest means you can take to oppose the work of the devil, to fit yourself to stand against him and to accomplish it is to fill your mind with the Word of God. To learn to understand all parts of the Word of God, not just some parts.

I've heard some people say sometimes: I have no creed but the NT. That is not a Biblical statement. We believe in the Bible, not in some portion of the Bible. The whole Word of God. God has messages for you; blessings for you in every book of the Bible. How much do you know about the teaching of Hosea? How much do you know about the message of Zephaniah? How much do you know about the teaching of Jude? Many parts of the Bible we tend to neglect. God has purposes for us in every part, and if we are to resist the devil as we should it is vital that we have our minds filled with the Word of God, and that we learn to understand God's truth in a way that