

The Christian's Defense against Satan

- I.** Satan can take advantage of the Christian who is occupied with lusts from the flesh (1 Cor. 7:5).
 1. Satan perceives a weakness.
 2. Satan attacks the mental processes of the mind while the Christian is concerned about the flesh (1 Pet. 2:11; 2 Cor. 2:11).

- II.** The promise of victory over Satan (Jam. 4:5-7).
 1. The Holy Spirit provides opposing lusts to the flesh (Jam. 4:6; Gal. 5:17).
 2. God resists the arrogant and gives grace to those who are not self-absorbed (Jam 4:6; *cf.* Rom. 12:16).
 3. When a Christian has allegiance to the Father and stands against the devil, the devil will flee (Jam. 4:7).
 4. The flesh and the devil are two different enemies that require two different defenses.
 - 1) You are to stand against the devil.
 - 2) You are to reckon yourself dead, or separated from the sin nature (Rom. 6:11).
 5. In a family relationship (Jam. 4:8):
 - 1) When we draw near to God—submit and be ceremonially clean (v. 7).
 - 2) He draws near to us.
 6. The danger of offering the soul two different masters.
 - 1) Become ceremonially unclean.
 - 2) Sin.

- III.** Thoughts from Satan and counter thoughts from the Holy Spirit (1 Pet. 5:8-9; Gal. 5:17).
 1. Be sober: keep a clear mind, “take Satan seriously!”
 2. Be watching: stay awake, alert, “an attack may come at any time.”
 3. Stand against Satan by **the faith**; divine enabling is required; we are not on our own.