**THE DEVIL CAN’T HANDLE IT**

James 4:7

**7**[**Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/James-4-7/)

**INTRO:**

**Illustration: In a national survey “born again” Christians were asked if they agreed or disagreed with the following statement: “The Devil (Satan) is not a being that’s evil, but instead a symbol of evil.” Forty-eight percent of self-proclaiming “born again” Christians agreed with the statement or simply answered, “I don’t know.”**

**One country preacher who heard this simply asked this question: “IF THERE AIN’T NO DEVIL, THEN WHO IS DOING ALL THE DEVILIN’ AROUND HERE?”**

**1. Friends there is a devil and He is real, but there are also some things the devil can’t handle!**

**2. The devil cannot handle a Christian that has totally submitted himself to God . . . UNLESS, the Lord has allowed the devil to test that Christian as in Job’s case!**

**3. Notice our text: Before you can resist the devil and before the devil will flee from you, you must, “**[**Submit yourselves therefore to God.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/James-4-7/)**”**

**4. Here is an example of someone who has NOT submitted themselves to God and then tries to take on the devil:**

**\*\*Acts 19:13-17**

**13**[**Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-19-13/) **14**[**And there were seven sons of *one* Sceva, a Jew, *and* chief of the priests, which did so.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-19-14/) **15**[**And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-19-15/) **16**[**And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-19-16/)

**A. First, these “vagabond” Jews were not Christians, but instead they were hypocrites! They went from town to town and made their money using spells and charms and even the Lord’s name to pretend they were curing disease or casting out devils! \*\* By the way, there’s still some of those on T.V. casting out devils and healing the sick in the Lord’s name today, and they are false prophets!**

**\*\* There are also fakes who call themselves priests that perform exorcisms in the name of the Lord! But they’re devils!**

**B. These vagabond Jews called over the people with evil spirits and commanded (adjure) them “by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.” Notice it is not the Jesus they preached, but the Jesus Paul preaches! They thought they could do what Paul did, but Jesus gave the power to Paul not to the vagabond Jews! Acts 19:11 11**[**And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-19-11/)

**C. Notice the evil spirit tells these vagabond Jews, “[Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-19-15/" \o "View more translations of Acts 19:15)” In other words, they were not Christians submitted to God, and therefore they could not overcome the devil and his demons!**

**D. The evil spirit came out and leaped on them, overcame them, and prevailed which caused them to flee naked and wounded!**

**E. But the evil spirit did not jump on Paul because it knew Paul was a real, certified, blood-washed, dedicated, submitted to Jesus, powerful, Christian!**

**F. Are you the kind of Christian that the devil can’t handle? I sure want to be. Let me show you how!**

**G. Here are some things The Devil Can’t Handle!**

**Body: The Devil Can’t Handle It**

**I. HE CAN’T HANDLE A CHRISTIAN’S RESISTANCE**

**James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**

**\*\*Resist means to stand firm against.**

**\*\*Ephesians 6:11-13 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

**\*\*Margaret Thatcher said, “You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it.”**

**A. *RESIST HIM WITH THE BIBLE***

**Ephesians 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:**

**\*\*Three times in Matthew 4:1-11 Jesus resisted the temptation of the devil using the Word of God and saying, “It is written . . .”**

**\*\*You can’t resist the devil using the bible unless you**

**1. Read Your Bible 2. Re-Read Your Bible**

**3. Remember Your Bible**

**B. *RESIST HIM WITH THE BLOOD***

**The Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony;**

**1. When Satan Charges You**

**2. When Satan Combats You**

**3. When Satan Capsizes You**

**C. *RESIST HIM WITH THE BIRTH***

**I John 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith.**

**\*\*When you resist the devil by claiming your birthright as a child of God, you can overcome the WORLD and WICKEDNESS!**

**II. HE CAN’T HANDLE A CHRISTIAN’S REMINDERS**

**\*\*These reminders helps you to triumph over Satan!**

**A. *REMIND HIM THAT HE IS A LIAR***

**John 8:44 Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.**

**\*\*He’ll Lie To You About Your Soul, Your Salvation, Your Supplication, Your Shout, Your Singing, Your Scripture, Your Service, and Your Situation!**

**\*\*But he can’t handle it when you remind him he is a liar!**

**B. *REMIND HIM THAT HE IS A LOSER***

**\*\*Isaiah 14:12, 15 12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *how* art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! 15Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.**

**\*\*The Revelation 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are,* and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.**

**1. He Will Lose In The End Times**

**2. He Will Lose In The Eternal Things**

**\*\*Satan can’t handle it when Christians remind him that we have the Almighty and the Advantage!**

**C. *REMIND HIM THAT HE IS A LOW-LIFE***

**\*\* I John 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.**

**\*\* Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.**

**\*\*Satan is Lower, Less, and Limited so remind him of it!**

**III. HE CAN’T HANDLE A CHRISTIAN’S REJECTION Ephesians 4:27 Neither give place to the devil.**

**\*\* Reject him and do not give him a Spot, a Space, or a Shot!**

**A. *REJECT HIS TEMPTATIONS***

**I Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it.***

**1. Reject the Temptation of Old Desires**

**2. Reject the Temptation of Opening Doors**

**Illustrtion: Once a Christian lady who had lived a sinful life was asked, “How do you overcome Satan’s temptations from your past life?” She said, “Every time the devil knocks, I just let Jesus answer the door, and Satan flees every time!”**

**B. *REJECT HIS TALK***

**\*\* Reject His Subtle Talk, His Sneaky Talk, and His Sinful Talk!**

**C. *REJECT HIS TERROR***

**II Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.**

**\*\*Satan can’t handle it when a Christian trusts God and refuses to fear even while living in Troubles, Tragedy, or Trials!**

**\*\* Submit yourself to God and reject the ole devil, and you’ll find out that he can’t handle you!!**

**IV. HE CAN’T HANDLE A CHRISTIAN’S RELIANCE**

**Proverbs 3:5-6 5**[**Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Proverbs-3-5/) **6**[**In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Proverbs-3-6/)

**\*\*Satan can’t handle it when you . . .**

**A. Rely On Christ**

**1. Rely on the Holy Savior!**

**2. Rely on the Holy Spirit!**

**\*\*Rely means you have Confidence in Christ, you are Committed to Christ, and you are Counting on Christ!**

**\*\* Satan can’t handle that!**

**\*\*When you rely on Christ, Satan has to flee!**

**\*\*Just look Satan right in the face and sing . . .**

***On Christ the solid Rock I stand!***

***All other ground is sinking sand.***

***All other ground is sinking sand.***

**B. Rely On Church**

**1. Rely on the Prayers in the Church**

**2. Rely on the Praise in the Church**

**3. Rely on the Preaching in the Church**

**4. Rely on the People in the Church**

**Illustration: The Lord allowed Satan to take everything Job had except Job’s life because Satan thought Job would cave and allow Satan to handle him. That’s what Satan really wanted. And even though Satan took a lot away from Job, Job never allowed Satan to handle him. How did Job do it? Every time Satan tried something, Job just kept running back to God and submitting himself to the Lord. Satan could not handle Job, and he can’t handle you when you submit yourself to God too.**

**CLOSE:**

**Romans 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.**

**1. I’m thankful the devil can’t handle Christians who have submitted their life to God!**

**2. Thank God he can’t handle nor conquer some things in our lives!**

**A. Our Resistance he cannot conquer!**

**B. Our Reminders he cannot conquer!**

**C. Our Rejection he cannot conquer!**

**D. Our Reliance he cannot conquer!**

**Romans 8:31 31**[**What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us?**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Romans-8-31/)

**3. I wonder if anyone here today has had the devil trying to get a handle on your life or just try to handle you?**

**4. If so, how about coming to the altar and submitting yourself unto the Lord, resisting Satan, rejecting Satan, and reminding Satan that you’re relying on the Savior and that the ole devil cannot have you nor handle you anymore!**

**Illustration: These dark days reminds me of a Scottish Preacher who said when he was a boy he went to town and lost track of time. In the dark hours he grew afraid, until he heard the voice of his father saying cheerfully out in the shadows of the night, “Son, is that you? It’s me – your father.” His dad picked him up and carried him all the way home. It turned out that his dad had followed him to town and had been with him the whole time!**

**Application: Many times in these dark days Satan will scare us on this dark road. However, I have heard my Father’s voice calling out to me in the night. When I submit to my Lord’s voice, Satan flees and the darkness is not scary anymore!**