

Eisenhower Church of Christ

5 Steps to Devil-Proofing Your Life

Satan has been described by many terms in the Scriptures, but perhaps the most vivid is his depiction in 1 Peter 5:8. There the apostle states: **“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour”** (NKJV). Peter says the devil is similar to a lion. He is seeking out those he can destroy through sin. However, within the context of this very same passage, the steps to keep that from happening are laid before us. Consider 5 things that the Lord’s apostle says will keep us from becoming the devil’s next spiritual conquest.

Be humble. Just a couple of verses before the proclamation of verse 8, we read: **“Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time”** (5:6). If we are to keep from falling prey to Satan’s temptations, we must be filled with humility. We must understand that we need help; we are not strong enough on our own. Solomon wrote, **“Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall”** (Proverbs 16:18). If we believe it cannot happen to us, or we are strong enough on our own, we will fail.

Cast your anxieties upon God. Peter continues his admonition to be humble with these words: **“Casting all your care upon him, for he cares for you”** (5:7). One of our greatest struggles is to remember we do not have to deal with the problems of life on our own. Instead, our God is always there to help and comfort us in time of trouble. Remember this admonishment from Paul, **“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus”** (Philippians 4:6-7). If we want to keep Satan out, we need to remember we have someone else on our side and lean on him.

Be sober-minded and watchful. The start of verse 8 calls upon us to...**“be sober, be vigilant.”** In the same vein as a sentry manning his post, the Christian is to constantly be on the lookout for trouble. Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, **“Therefore, let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober”** (1 Thessalonians 5:6). If we are to keep from falling prey to the attacks of the devil, we must be alert and watchful at all times. It is when we are sleeping spiritually thinking that nothing bad can happen or that potentially harmful choices are not that big of a deal, that we can often be overcome with the consequences of spiritual drowsiness.

Resist him. This would seem to be an automatic response, but it is not always put into practice. Peter writes in verse 9, **“Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.”** James called upon Christians to do the same thing when he wrote: **“Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you”** (James 4:7-8). The greatest power we have at our disposal is the power of resistance. We cannot be forced to do anything that we do not want to do. The problem is that too many times we offer no resistance to temptation. Sometimes we fail to even acknowledge we are being tempted. Instead, we must resist. Fight back against the temptation and make it known that we will not simply walk off into darkness. The devil will never be able to overcome our resistance when we stand in the faith as we should, but we must first resist.

Know the rest of your brethren face the same fight. The last half of verse 9 is a reminder that we do not face any situations that others have not faced. Sometimes it feels as though we are the only ones suffering troubles and trials, or that ours are worse than what others face. However, such is simply not the case. While some Christians are dealing with physical issues, or problems that are publicly visible, others are dealing with struggles that cannot be seen. Nevertheless, the words of Paul are absolutely true when he said, **“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution”** (2 Timothy 3:12). We must realize we are not alone in our fight against the devil. Others have faced our same struggle and won by maintaining their faith in God and devotion to him. Others have faced problems perceived as far worse than our predicament and their faith has brought them through with flying colors.

Satan will attempt to pull away every Christian. It is his desire that the world be left void of those who follow the commands of Jesus. However, he can only succeed if we let him. The choice is ours. If we put these 5 steps into practice every day, we can overcome every single one of Satan’s temptation and persecutions. Do not believe the illusion that it will be easy. The task of overcoming is often difficult. It is a test of our faith,

perseverance and will to serve God. However, Paul said that such trials bring about endurance to see it through to the end (Romans 5:3-4). Therefore, let us always remember the words of Romans 8:31 as we face the temptations and trials of life: ***“If God is for us, who can be against us?”***

—Adam Cozort

Prayer Request

Winford Hambright was moved to the Long Term Health Care Unit at Parks Living. He is not doing very well at this time. Please keep Winford in your daily prayers that he may see some improvement in his health.

John Wood went to Lubbock on Monday, October 22nd, to get another treatment for his MS. Continue to keep him in your prayers that these treatments will be very effective in treating this condition.

Concerns Update

Emma Craig (granddaughter of Virgie Bartee) will have tests done on Monday, October 29th in Dallas. Please keep Emma in your prayers that she will get good results.

Anita Smith has a micro-chip which will monitor her heart rhythm and sends it directly to ORMC so they can see her heart's activity for a while. This may be a temporary process until they can see a pattern. Continue to keep Anita in your prayers.

Janet Wesson is scheduled to have tests done on her thyroid sometime this week. Continue to keep her in your prayers that she will get some answers.

Prayer List

Elsie Bradford; Bill Bundick; Brad Bundick; Bill Brown; Bill Butler; Raymundo Calzadias; Casey Cleveland; David Castor; Emma Craig; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; James V. Drake; Glenda Driver; Dana Erwin; Densell Fambro; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambright; Letha Hooper; Chris & Shirley Landers; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Kirk McFarland; Juan & Estella Morolez; Caydon Parker; Jackie Rex; Ida Rodriguez; Elvia Ruckman; Janelle Shirley; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Anita Smith; Albert Stegall; James Stephens; Jack Straw; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Jurlean Warren; Chuck Weaver; Jimmy Weaver; Josh Wells; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Sondie Williamson; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; John Wood; Jack Wright.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley; and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

After Jesus had revealed himself to Thomas and the others, he went to the Sea of Tiberias and there he shewed himself again. Among those present were Thomas, Nathanael, the sons of Zebedee and two others. How many was there in all?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

Philip was the brother of King Herod? (Matthew 14:3)

Events

Watch ***“In Search of the Lord's Way”*** every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the ***“Speaking the Truth in Love”*** program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

The **Oldham Lane Church of Christ** in Abilene is having a **“Ladies Day”** Saturday, November 10th. The time is 8:15 am-1:00 pm. The theme is: “Broken but blessed”. Their invitation is posted on the bulletin board.

Office News

The **“New Mexico Children’s Home”** will be here Tuesday, December 4th for a food pick up. They are requesting **Chocolate Chips and Vanilla**. Monetary donations are also accepted.

STF–Group #4 will have their luncheon get-together this morning following the service in Room C-5. Our visitors are invited.

Food for Thought

It took Solomon 13 years to build his palace. It only took him seven years to build the temple. (I Kings 6:38-7:1)

IS TODAY A GOOD DAY?

If you are reading this, you are literate. What a blessing! What a world of knowledge, adventure and opportunity it unveils. How we should praise God who gave us such ability! How we should use all our abilities to know Him and serve Him!

If you are reading this, you can see. What a blessing! The panoply of colors in a sunset, the first bud of Spring, the faces of those you love most dearly; all are yours to bring delight. Praise to God for the richness of His gifts! How He helps us know His majesty and love!

If you are reading this, you are alive. What a blessing! Alive and able to think and know. Alive and able to change and grow; Alive and able to give yourself to God; Alive and able to prepare for life eternal.

Is today a good day? Shall we be content to call it “good?” Will we dare to call it great? A great day is any day lived gratefully. That is any day lived usefully. That is any day lived with God!

–Bill Bagents,
via Marietta, OH

October 28, 2018

	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Rudy Ochoa
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Bill Tolbert	Richard Siler
Second Prayer	Josh Wells	Craig Wesson
Closing Prayer	Craig Wesson	Scot Straw

Lord's Supper

(Scripture Reading)	<u>Doug Guynn</u>	
West...	Dan Igo	Cody Wesson
	Craig Wesson	Communion
	Bill Ryan	(In Library)
East...	Tommy Garcia	
	Bill Brown	
	Richard Siler	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 556-5547 *Deacon*: Jr. Munoz 363-1309 *Pulpit*: John Wood 413-7444 *Table*: Cody Wesson 934-4646 *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties*: Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 *Collections*: Rudy Ochoa 214-0398

Sunday AM

"Garden of Gethsemane"

(Luke 22:39-46)

Sunday PM

"Fountain of Tears"

(Mark 14:66-72)

Our Records

Bible Class... 75

Morning Worship...103

Evening Worship...85

Wednesday...63

Contribution...\$4,683.67