

Getting Ready to Resist!

All animals have enemies.

War is the watchword!!

Some deer at the pond. Some rabbits under the ramp. A mouse in the house.

Notice how they look and listen.

The slightest irregularity and they are off like a shot!

Lives are saved because they are continually on guard!

As Christians, we are more vulnerable to attack by our enemy than any animal.

Romans 7:21-23

Satan travels at the SPEED OF THOUGHT!!

His suggestions appeal to our instincts.

He gets away with it because it is SO NATURAL!

It's natural to cater to our appetites and passions.

We can be captured by him and NOT KNOW IT!

We can be used by him and NOT SUSPECT IT!

We can be led to serve his evil ends AND THINK WE'RE GODLY WHEN WE DO!

I. SATAN GIVES NO WARNING SIGNAL

1 Peter 5:8

We must be CONSTANTLY ON WATCH!

Believe what God has said about him.

We must have A DEFINITE PLAN OF ACTION FOR RESISTING HIM.

1 Peter :13a

We must go into action at the first hint of Satanic suggestion.

It is similar to running across a rattlesnake in your path!

Matthew 26:41

Those are PRE-ENCOUNTER (pre-temptation) INSTRUCTIONS!!

Watching comes before praying!

Once you fall into his trap it's too late to watch for him!

II. RESIST HIM AND HE WILL FLEE

James 4:7 Resist means FIGHT! No one can do it for us!

Same as lay up your treasures in heaven. No one else can do that for us either!

GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU IS OUR ENCOURAGEMENT TO FIGHT!

It's not the presence of the Lord in our lives that puts Satan to flight---- IT'S HIS POWER!!

AND HIS POWER IS NOT OPERATIVE UNTIL WE RESIST!!!

III. A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS DOES NOT GET RID OF SATAN!

If the presence of Jesus provided an automatic buffer, we would have automatic victory.

The reality is that those who are closest to Him - are often those who are affected the worst!

To be so focused on Jesus that we ignore Satan;

Simply gives him the freedom he needs to exploit the weaknesses of our flesh!!

The danger is real.

His presence is real.

His powers are not cancelled by the presence of Jesus within us.

The situation is serious enough for our Savior to ask:

John 17:13-15