

TACTICS AND WEAPONS FOR RESISTING THE DEVIL / *James 4:7*

We are commanded to “resist” the devil, to take a stand against him, now! Those intent on submitting to God ask, “how?”

Tactics God has not left us without battle plans. Here are some of his instructions:

Refuse to accept Satan’s suggestion that we can be separated from Christ. Romans 8:38-39

Ignore the temptation to doubt God’s grace. 1 John 3:19-24

Reject the lie that we are beyond forgiveness. 1 John 1:9

Pray before, during, and after attacks by the devil. Philippians 4:4-7
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
James 1:2-8

Allow Christ to replace our way of thinking with his way of thinking. Philippians 2:5-8;
4:8-9
Romans 12:1-2

Weapons While the devil employs weapons of terror and illusion, God equips us with weapons of real power. They are only ineffective when we leave them unused. Among them are:

The belt of truth—whenever the truth is spoken and lived, the devil is unwelcome. Ephesians 6:14
John 8:32; 14:6; 17:17

The breastplate of righteousness—living rightly is the result of advanced training in the faith. When we are living under God’s guidance we are on guard against the devil’s attacks. Ephesians 6:14
Hebrews 5:12-14
1 Peter 2:12

The footwear of the gospel of peace—communicating the gospel is taking back territory controlled by the devil. Ephesians 6:15
Matthew 24:14
Romans 1:16

The shield of faith—our faith in Christ makes him our shield and protector. Ephesians 6:16
Hebrews 11:1
1 Peter 1:3-5

The helmet of salvation—the salvation that God offers is our eternal protection. Ephesians 6:17
1 Thessalonians 5:8-9
Romans 1:16

The sword of the Spirit, God’s Word—the Bible is a weapon when its truth is put to use, exposing the devil’s work and helping those who are losing the battle. Ephesians 6:17
2 Timothy 3:16
Hebrews 4:12

Prayer—in prayer we rely on God’s help. Ephesians 6:18-20
Hebrews 4:16
James 5:13-16