

**Wed PM - 5/9/2012**  
**"Victory Promised" – James 4:7**

Read James 4:7: "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist (oppose) the devil, and he will flee from you."

Exegesis:

Literal Translation of James 4:7

Submit yourselves

ὑποτάγητε

(APlmp 2<sup>nd</sup> p.pl. of ὑποτάσσω)

therefore to God

οὖν τῷ θεῷ

Resist (oppose) the

ἀντίστητε δὲ τῷ

(AAImp 2<sup>nd</sup> p.pl. of ἀνθίστημι)

devil, and he will flee

διαβόλῳ καὶ φεύξεται

(FMInd 3<sup>rd</sup> p.s. of φεύγω)

from you.

ἀφ' ὑμῶν

Key Words in James 4:7:

SUBMIT – HUPOTASSO (HUPO [under]+STASSO [stand]) to submit to the authority and advice of another; this is in the aorist passive (also to be considered the middle voice) imperative; we are responsible for submitting ourselves to God and His Word

RESIST – ANTISTETE – To take a strong stand

DEVIL – DIABOLO (DIA=through + BOLO=ball) he can throw balls of evil right through us

FLEE – PHEUGO – To be a fugitive, to be one who escapes or one who flees.

One interpretation of this verse is: "Humble yourselves before God, and make war on the evil one, and he will be put to flight before you".

Where there is no study of God's Word, there will be NO spiritual advance.

Study the following scriptures: Deut 31:12 (we must gather ourselves together and *hear, learn, and do* the Word of God); Proverbs 1:7(a); 8:33; 9:9 (Just man in this verse means *justified man*); 22:17; 24:5; Eph 4:15; 2 Thessalonians 1:3; Hebrews 5:14 (strong meat belongs to the advanced believer - not spiritual babies); 1 Peter 2:2 (milk belongs to the nursing [spiritual] baby); Hosea 6:6 (reality of Grace above ritual and religion); Colossians 1:10 (we should walk worthy of the Lord, increasing in the Truth); 2 Peter 3:18; 1 Timothy 6:17 HUPHTHRENOS in this verse means to be swelled up with pride in the uncertainty of physical riches)

Are we really enjoying spiritual victory? Only we can answer that question for ourselves.

James tells us to "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

### Capacity for Living

1. Capacity for living is a proper response to God; it takes a perpetual ceaseless and incessant daily intake of God's Word. Any blessing without a right relationship with the Lord is actually *not worth having*.
2. Capacity for living then, means to get off the low road of insecurity and instability to the high road of God's Grace, by self-discipline, daily concentration that brings consecration.
3. Capacity for living reveals that we have allowed the roadblocks of the soul to be removed by God's Word. These roadblocks block out God's Grace. We are to persist in God's Word, no matter what anyone says.
4. A person consistently occupied with the Lord will keep their priorities straight.
5. The Grace-oriented person is occupied with the Source of the blessings, rather than with the blessings. This person remains occupied with Christ, in the shower of blessings and in adversity equally.
6. If we have capacity for Love, Life and Blessings, the Lord remains the same with or without the blessings.
7. The only way to straight priorities is via *consistent Christian advance*.
8. If a person begins to neglect God's Truth, they will also begin to focus on the blessings rather than the One who blesses: The "*Bless – er*", and if they continue in this neglect, then they become arrogant and sour.
9. Love for the Bless – er will cause the bless – ees to enjoy the blessings.
10. Our confidence is in the Lord – The One who promises us victory!