

Sunday AM - Session 2 - 1/29/2012
"Determined Resistance" - James 4:7

No matter where any person finds himself in a chain of command of authority, there is *always* someone above that person, there's *always* someone to which we are all obligated to submit.

Analyzing the 2nd part of James 4:7

"... Resist (oppose) the devil, and he will flee from you."

Resist (oppose) the	devil, and he will flee	from you.
ἀντίστητε δὲ τῷ	διαβόλῳ καὶ φεύξεται	ἀφ' ὑμῶν
(AAImp 2 nd p.pl. of ἀνθίστημι)	(FMInd 3 rd p.s. of φεύγω)	

The moment we sense Satan's attack, is the moment we should face that attack and see it for what it is.

FLEE is in the middle voice, indicative mood.

Middle voice means: When the devil is fleeing, we will be benefited.

The indicative mood means: This is very real.

The power of Satan should never be underestimated, but neither should his power be *overestimated*! He is never more powerful than the tools God has given to us to "submit ourselves to God".

John 16:33; Eph 6:10-17; 1 Pet 5:6-9; 1 John 4:4, 5:4,5

Submission is the voluntary act of placing oneself under the authority of another - to show respect and to be ready to obey.

HUPOTASSO means to subordinate, ready to obey, to the authority of God.

This is a call for our voluntary subordination to God's Plan and Will. God does not want programmed robots, forced obedience, but determined submission. Submission to God is the beginning, middle, and end of the prodigal's disastrous familiarity with the outside world to the security of his father's home.

Authority

1. Authority is the legal power delegated by God under the laws of His Will (Colossians 3:18, I Timothy 6, and Ephesians 5).
2. There are two Greek words we have looked at to describe this: HUPAKOULO and HUPOTASSO.
3. Rejection of authority is always a sign of apostasy. Eve began rejecting the authority of God and that of her companion before the fall, instead accepting the authority of Satan. In her unfaithfulness, she was actually committing mental, spiritual and social adultery, rejecting the authority of God.
4. Rejection of God's Word and its proclamation is actually an attack upon the authority God. People often want everything and anything - but they do not want the Word of God.

5. Obedience to authority is emphasized by all ten of these imperative verbs in verses 7-10 of James 4.
6. The authority of God over nature itself is presented in Matthew 8:23, Mark 4:35, and Luke chapter 8.
7. Parental authority is established by the Word of God in Ephesians 6:1, Colossians 3:20. Disobedience to parents is named among the dark sins of the heathen of reprobate mind in Romans 1:30. This same sin is offered as evidence that we are living in the last days in II Timothy 3:2.
8. The Bible presents the necessity of authority in every area of life, in marriage, in the business world. In addition, our Lord Jesus Christ was totally submissive to the authority of God the Father (Philippians 2:8-9). In the dateless past, God proclaimed that Jesus Christ would be emptied, be under authority to the Father, and the pre-existent Christ agreed and submitted totally to that plan. When students respect the teacher, it is not degrading, it is elevating. When a child submits to his or her parents, it is not degrading, it is elevating. When Christians submit to the teaching of the Word of God, it is not degrading, it is elevating.

Submission to authority actually takes Satan's opportunity from him.

If we resist the devil by submission and obedience to God's Word and Plan, we remove Satan's opportunity, and James 4:7 tells us that he will flee from us.