

Sermon Notes 11/16/2025

Defeating the Devil Derrotando al diablo

**How can we defeat the devil?
¿Cómo podemos derrotar al diablo?**

1. We must be self-controlled and _____.
Debemos ser autocontrolados y estar _____.

1 Peter 5:8 (1 Pedro 5:8)

Ephesians 6:18 (Efesios 6:18)

1 Thessalonians 5:6-8 (1 Tesalonicenses 5:6-8)

2. We must stand firm in the _____.
Debemos mantenernos firmes en la _____.

1 Peter 5:9 (1 Pedro 5:9)

Ephesians 6:13-17 (Efesios 6:13-17)

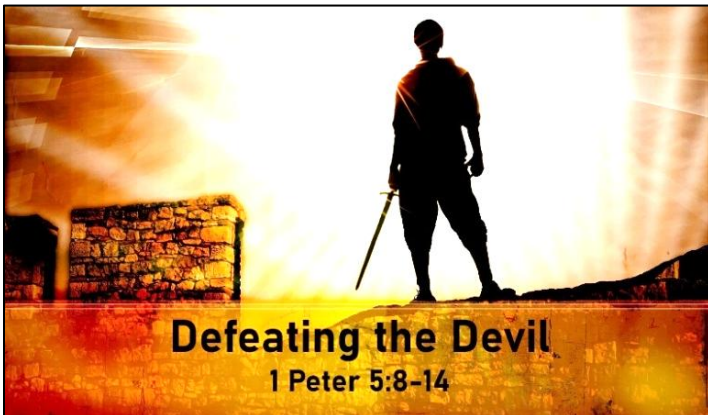
Jude 1:3 (Judas 1:3)

3. We must depend on God's _____.
Debemos depender de la _____ de Dios.

1 Peter 5:10-12 (1 Pedro 5:10-12)

Ephesians 6:10-12 (Efesios 6:10-12)

2 Peter 3:18 (2 Pedro 3:18)



Life Group Discussion Questions

Week 11: November 16-23

1 Peter 5:8-14

The letter of First Peter was written to encourage Christians who were suffering from persecution. In AD 64 there was a fire in Rome that destroyed a large portion of the city. Nero blamed it on the Christians and started the first official persecution of Christians by the Roman government. Although this official persecution was just in the city of Rome, the zeal of the emperor caused many of the local authorities in other parts of the empire to see Christianity as a problem that needed to be eliminated.

Halley's Bible Handbook says:

The church worldwide was undergoing a time of trial (1 Peter 5:9). It seemed as if the end had come. It was in the most literal sense a “fiery trial” (4:12KJV). Christians were being burned nightly in Nero’s gardens. It did look as if the devil was about to devour the church as a “roaring lion” (5:8). (Halley, 873)

However, the message of First Peter is not just for the Christians who were being persecuted in the first century. Satan has been actively attacking God’s people in every century in many different ways. In the final chapter of this book, we see several important principles that will help us defeat the devil whenever we are under attack.

Read 1 Peter 5:8-14

1. What did Peter tell his readers to do in verse 8?

Jack Cottrell notes,

Peter says... that we must be watchful or alert. The word here is *gregoreo*. It means “to stay awake and watchful.” Jesus uses this word in Mark 13:35, 37 when he tells us to be constantly ready for his return: “Be on the alert!” He also uses it three times in Mark 14:34-38, where he commanded Peter, along with James and John to “keep watch” while he went further into the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. I cannot help but believe that Peter sorrowfully remembered this incident even as he wrote this exhortation to us here in his own letter. (Cottrell, 307)

2. How did Peter describe the devil? (5:8)

3. What is the devil looking for? What does that mean? (5:8)

Cottrell writes,

We should note that this adversarial relationship is very personal; Peter calls the devil “your” enemy. Each of us Christians is the object of Satan’s enmity and attack. Why is this so? Because the devil is primarily God’s enemy, and he wants to disrupt God’s plans and desires in any way he can. And in the final analysis God’s plans and desires revolve around us. Thus, if Satan can seduce and defeat us, to some degree he defeats God’s purposes. (Cottrell, 304)

4. According to verse 9, how can we resist the devil?

5. What did the early Christians know about their brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world? (5:9)

Charles Swindoll observes,

Our hope is strengthened when we remember that believers are standing shoulder to shoulder with each other across the globe in the same spiritual battle, enduring the same kinds of suffering, facing the same kinds of obstacles, experiencing the same kind of victory. The strength that comes from God’s caring and praying community cannot be appreciated enough. Support groups and prayer chains are popular for a reason—they work! (Swindoll, 274)

6. How does Peter describe God in verse 10?

7. To what has God called all Christians? (5:10)

8. What should we remember when we are going through times of suffering? (5:10-11)

Allen Black writes,

The reference to suffering “a little while” (ὀλίγον, *oligon*) echoes 1:6, “though now for a little while you may have had to suffer.” In both cases the “little while” is in comparison with eternity. A lifetime of suffering is only a little while by the standard of “eternal glory.” (Black, 136)

9. What did Peter say about Silas? (5:12)

10. What purpose did Peter have for writing this letter? (5:12)

Black comments,

Here Peter sums up the point of his letter. Peter has written a letter of encouragement and testimony. The antecedent of “this” is perhaps the letter itself or what the letter has said about God’s grace (cf. 1:2,10; 3:7; 4:10; 5:5,10). Peter wants them to endure and stand fast in God’s grace, in the various aspects he has discussed: the grace of the message of the gospel (1:10), the grace of God’s current work through them (4:10), the grace of suffering for Christ (2:19-20), and the grace of their future inheritance (3:7; 5:10) The entire book is an exhortation to steadfastness. (Black, 138)

11. How should we respond to the true grace of God? (5:12)

12. Who sent greetings to the initial readers of this letter? (5:13)

13. How did Peter describe his readers in verse 13?

14. How did Peter tell his readers to greet one another? (5:14)

15. What helps you to be self-controlled and spiritually alert?

16. What strategies does Satan use to attack Christians?

17. How do you stand firm in the faith when Satan is attacking you?

18. What does it mean to “stand fast” in “the true grace of God”?

19. How will you pray for Christians who are suffering?

20. How do you want Christians to pray for you?

Sources cited:

Black, Allen, and Mark Black. *1 & 2 Peter*. College Press, 1998.

Cottrell, Jack. *Studies in First Peter*. Christian Restoration Association, 2017.

Halley, Henry. *Halley’s Bible Handbook, Deluxe Edition*. Zondervan, 2014.

Swindoll, Charles. *Insights on James, 1 & 2 Peter*. Tyndale, 2014.