

I. SCRIPTURES AND THOUGHTS

A. Ephesians 4:27

NKJV “Neither give place to the devil.”

NIV “Do not give the devil a foothold.”

ESV “Give no opportunity to the devil.”

GNT “Don’t give the devil a chance.”

- *It is possible to give him opportunity, footholds, a chance to work in our life.*
- *If it seems the devil is at work in some capacity in our life, the first thing we need to do is make sure the door is closed - that we are not giving him a place in our life.*

B. RESISTANCE

1. 1 Peter 5:8-10

NKJV “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. **Resist him, steadfast in the faith,** knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.”

a. “Resist him steadfast in the faith”

- *Resist: to set oneself against; to oppose; withstand.*
- *English translation: To fight against or oppose something; To fend off its influence.*
- *Steadfast in the faith = immovable – strong – firm – steadily – consistently – continually*
- *WE are to make RESISTANCE a lifestyle.*
- *NO ACCESS GRANTED!*

b. The issue for many people is the lack of resistance against the enemy.

- *They are giving FREE ACCESS*
- *They put up NO RESISTANCE - NO FIGHT - NO opposition*
- *Instead of the door being closed to the enemy, they have put out the welcome mat*
- *Failure to resist is a welcome sign to the devil.*

2. **People who are easy prey for the enemy (those who are vulnerable or accessible to him) may be identified by the following:**
 - a. **They quickly agree with everything the devil says to them.**
 - *Notice, when Jesus was tempted, He never agreed with what the devil said. When Peter allowed Satan to get in his voice against Jesus, the response of Jesus was: "Get thee behind Me Satan".*
 - b. **They always put the devil's words in their mouth.**
 - *The devil plants a thought of defeat → they speak defeat*
 - *The devil plants thoughts of failure → they speak failure, faithlessness, etc.*
 - *Israel put words of defeat in their mouths, and they were defeated.*
 - c. **They waiver between faith and emotions**
 - *When we are resisting the devil, we will stay in the realm of faith and resist moving into the realm of the emotions/senses.*
 - d. **They do not know who they are.**
 - *You must know who you are: you are a victorious child of God, an overcomer, a victor.*
 - e. **They are not skillful with their armor or the weapon of the Word.**

PASTOR'S NOTE: When you become skillful in all these areas, YOU ARE SKILLFUL WITH RESISTANCE (good at denying Satan access in your life).

3. **People who failed by giving access:**
 - a. **Judas**
 - **Luke 22:3 NKJV** "Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve."
 - *Satan found access - NO RESISTANCE*
 - b. **Ananias and Saphira**
 - **Acts 5:3 NKJV** "But Peter said, 'Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself?'"
 - **How did this happen? NO RESISTANCE. THEY TOOK THE THOUGHT. THEY GOT IN AGREEMENT WITH SATAN. He had access.**

4. Jesus, the supreme example of resistance:

- a. **Heb 12:1-4 NKJV** “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *We have not resisted to the point of bloodshed but, at the cross, JESUS DID!*

b. **John 14:30**

- **KJV** “Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.”
- **NIV** “The prince of this world is coming. He has NO HOLD over me.”
- **AMP** “I will not speak with you much longer, for the ruler of the world (Satan) is coming. And he has no claim on Me [no power over Me nor anything that he can use against Me]...”
- **YLT** “I will no more talk much with you, for the ruler of this world doth come, and in me he hath nothing...”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *Satan had no ACCESS to Jesus because Jesus GAVE HIM NO ACCESS*

- *He refused to agree with His thoughts.*
- *He refused to put his words in His mouth.*
- *He refused to waiver between the flesh and emotions.*
- *He knew who He was.*
- *He was very skillful at using HIS armor and weapon of the word: “it is written” was skillfully in His mouth.*

5. Become skillful in resistance and you will close the door to the enemy every time.

- a. Satan doesn’t hang around where access isn’t granted
- b. **NOTE:** After he could find no access in Jesus, he left Him for a season.