

7-20-2025, COTR Texarkana

Title: What Should We Say to the Devil?

Purpose: Provoke Christians to engage in spiritual warfare and use 4 'spiritual power phrases' to use against the devil and demonic influence.

Truth for Today: We can fight the devil by using 4 'spiritual power phrases': It is written', (2) 'Get behind me', (3) 'The name of Jesus', and (4) 'The blood of Jesus.

Text: 1 Peter 5:8-9

Topic: Words, Spiritual Warfare, Name of Jesus, Blood of Jesus

Sermon series: You Said WHAT?

Series purpose: Provoke people to talk to God, themselves, others and the devil in a Biblical way

What Should We Say to the Devil?

I. Introduction (PJ Leader apps, Tu night service)

- A. Pic lion [1 Peter 5:8–9 (NLT)] **Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil.** He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ **Stand firm against him**, and be strong in your faith...] How do we stand firm and resist the devil and even win when he attacks us and does this spiritual warfare involve words?
- B. Review: You Said WHAT? [Pr.18:21 (ESV)] Death and life are in the power of the tongue.] We've talked about words we say to God, what we think and say to ourselves, self-talk, words we say to others and what Christians should say to lost people.
- C. Today we'll finish the series and talk about something you may have never thought of, what should we say to the devil and demons in spiritual warfare. [James 4:7 (ESV)]...**Resist the devil**, and he will flee from you.] Does part of resistance include what we say to him? I believe it does, and I'll show you from the Bible.
- D. Title: What Should We Say to the Devil?
- E. Truth for Today: We can fight the devil by using 4 'spiritual power phrases': It is written', (2) 'Get behind me', (3) 'The name of Jesus', and (4) 'The blood of Jesus.

II. Spiritual 'power phrase' #1: 'It is written'

- A. [Mt. 4:1–11 (ESV)] Then **Jesus was...tempted by the devil.** ² And after fasting forty days...he was hungry. ³ And the **tempter**...said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "**It is written**, (NLT *the Scriptures say*)(Deut. 8:3) " 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' " ...⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again **it is written**..." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "**Be gone, Satan! For it is written**..." ¹¹ **Then the devil left him...**]
- 1. Each time the devil tempted Jesus, He spoke out loud and quoted a Bible verse. Why? [Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)] For **the word of God is living and active**, sharper than any two-edged sword... and we should, too, [Ephesians 6:16–17 (NLT)]... hold up the shield of **faith** to stop the **fiery arrows of the devil.** ¹⁷...and take the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.**] Defensive and offensive weapon
- 2. We likely will not see the devil or demons, but we see their evil work and recognize the seed thoughts of temptation, doubt, fear, etc. and fight them by standing on God's Word.

3. Life App #1: When we recognize the devil's temptation or attack, speak the Word of God to him and [2 Cor.10:5 (ESV)...**take every thought captive to obey Christ**] E.g., you're married but attracted to another man or woman, what do you think and say? The Word of God: Tell yourself (1) Husbands love your wives, (2) What God has joined let not man separate, (3) Flee sexual immorality.

III. Spiritual 'power phrase' #2: 'Get behind me' ...stop, leave me alone.

- A. [Mark 8:31–33 (ESV)...he (*Jesus*) began to teach them (*the disciples*) that the Son of Man must suffer many things...and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²...And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But...**he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan!** For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."]
1. Peter wasn't possessed, he was just telling Jesus that he and others wanted Jesus to be a political Savior from Rome, and he couldn't if he was dead. Peter's pov was rational and worldly thinking, not God's will or plan. However, Satan tried to use Peter's words to try to deter Jesus from His mission of the cross. Most likely satan didn't appear but came as a thought in Jesus' mind.
2. Life App. #2: Satan will try to use thoughts to influence us away from God's will or plan. We must be in R&R mode, i.e., recognize and resist. [James 4:7 (ESV)...**Resist the devil**, and he will flee from you.] E.g., You used to party before you got serious about following Jesus. An old friend invites you to go to a party. You know there will be alcohol, drugs and sex. What would you say?

IV. Spiritual 'power phrase' #3: 'The name of Jesus'

- A. [Luke 10:1–20 (ESV)...the Lord appointed **seventy-two** others and sent them on ahead...² And he said..."The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few..."³...I am sending you out as **lambs** in the midst of **wolves**..."¹⁷ The seventy-two returned... saying, "Lord, even the **demons are subject to us in your name!**"...¹⁹ Behold, **I have given you authority** to tread on **serpents and scorpions**, and **over all the power of the enemy**, and nothing shall hurt you.
1. This was more than the apostles but believers like us on the same mission we're on. They dealt with demonic powers, not in their ability, but with the authority of 'the name of Jesus. Paul delivered a demon possessed fortune teller the same way, [Acts 16:18 (NLT)]...Paul...said to the demon within her, "**I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.**" And instantly it left her.
2. Speaking the name of Jesus is a form of delegated authority to give us spiritual power over evil like a power of attorney, // E.g., Charge it to Gran
3. Demonic activity was common in the NT. Is it today? If so, don't Christians today have the same endowments of salvation, the same Holy Spirit, and the same mission the early believers had?
4. Life App #3: All believers have been given delegated authority by Christ because (1) Jesus defeated satan on the cross, (2) We've been adopted into his family and speak and act on His behalf, and (3) We exercise our delegated authority through the power of the Spirit to fulfill our mission. Acts 1:8

V. Conclusion: Spiritual 'power phrase' #4: 'The blood of Jesus'

- A. There is power in the blood of Jesus, [Rev. 12:9–11 (ESV)]...the devil...**and his angels were thrown down (to the earth)**...¹¹ And **they (believers) have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb** and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. [Rev. 1:5 (NLT)]...Jesus Christ...the ruler of all the kings of the world... has **freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us.** He also has freed us from satan's control.
1. Life App #5: In our prayer against evil, the phrase, 'I plead the blood', means I petition, call on or appeal to the power of the blood of Jesus Christ to be released against the devil, demons and evil. E.g. prayer for wayward family member.
- B. We may say, how do I know this stuff can work today? [1 John 5:4 (NLT)] For **every child of God defeats this evil world...through our faith...** It takes faith to believe spiritual battles can be won through the words we say: (1) 'It is written', (2) 'Get behind me'...stop, leave me alone, (3) 'The name of Jesus' and (4) 'The blood of Jesus' will cause the forces of evil to tremble and flee and give us victory.

VI. Response

- A. Prayer: You're fighting a spiritual battle right now and need prayer.
- B. Souls: The greatest spiritual battle is for your eternal soul. Will you turn to God and go to heaven or follow the devil's ways and go to hell? God has made a way for you to go to heaven if you turn to God, and believe and follow Jesus.

VII. Bibliography/ Resources: Logos Bible Software and Library, Platinum Edition, was used to prepare this message.

VIII. Supplemental Material

- A. Jude 8–9 (NLT) In the same way, these people...**scoff at supernatural beings.** ⁹ But even Michael, one of the mightiest of the angels, **did not dare accuse the devil of blasphemy, but simply said, "The Lord rebuke you!"** (This took place when Michael was arguing with the devil about Moses' body.)
- B. Dressed for war, [Ephesians 6:10–20 (NLT)] A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. ¹⁴ Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. ¹⁵ For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. ¹⁶ In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. ¹⁷ Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. ¹⁹ And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike. ²⁰ I am in chains now, still preaching this

message as God's ambassador. So pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should.

1. [Mark 16:17 (ESV) And these signs will accompany those who believe: **in my name they will cast out demons...**]
- C. James 2:19 (NLT) You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! **Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror.**
- D. Acts 13:6–12 (NLT) Afterward they traveled from town to town across the entire island until finally they reached Paphos, where they met a Jewish sorcerer, a false prophet named Bar-Jesus. ⁷ He had attached himself to the governor, Sergius Paulus, who was an intelligent man. The governor invited Barnabas and Saul to visit him, for he wanted to hear the word of God. ⁸ But Elymas, the sorcerer (as his name means in Greek), interfered and urged the governor to pay no attention to what Barnabas and Saul said. He was trying to keep the governor from believing. ⁹ Saul, also known as Paul, was filled with the Holy Spirit, and he looked the sorcerer in the eye. ¹⁰ Then he said, **“You son of the devil, full of every sort of deceit and fraud, and enemy of all that is good! Will you never stop perverting the true ways of the Lord? ¹¹ Watch now, for the Lord has laid his hand of punishment upon you, and you will be struck blind.** You will not see the sunlight for some time.” Instantly mist and darkness came over the man's eyes, and he began groping around begging for someone to take his hand and lead him. ¹² When the governor saw what had happened, he became a believer, for he was astonished at the teaching about the Lord.
- E. Don't play around/ treat the devil lightly
 1. Acts 19:13–16 (NLT) A group of Jews was traveling from town to town casting out evil spirits. **They tried to use the name of the Lord Jesus** in their incantation, saying, “I command you in the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches, to come out!” ¹⁴ Seven sons of Sceva, a leading priest, were doing this. ¹⁵ But one time when they tried it, the evil spirit replied, “I know Jesus, and I know Paul, but who are you?” ¹⁶ Then the man with the evil spirit leaped on them, overpowered them, and attacked them with such violence that they fled from the house, naked and battered.
 2. Spiritual warfare isn't a game
- F. There is power in the blood of Jesus, [Rev. 12:9–11 (ESV) And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and **Satan**, the deceiver of the whole world—he **was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.** ¹⁰ And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and **the authority of his Christ have come**, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And **they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.**
- G. 1 John 1:7 (NLT)...**the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.** 1 Peter 1:2 (NLT)...you have obeyed him and have been **cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ.**
- H. Prayer for God to act on our behalf/ keep us from the evil one

1. Matthew 6:9-13 (NLT)! ⁹ Pray like this: Our Father in heaven...¹³ And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one, (*ESV deliver us from evil*)
2. Job 1:9–10 (NLT) Satan replied to the LORD, “Yes, but Job has good reason to fear God. ¹⁰ You have always put a wall of protection (*ESV hedge*) around him and his home and his property. You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is!
- I. Demons can influence/ possess people, but Jesus is more powerful. Speaking to a spirit in the authority of the name of Jesus releases spiritual power, i.e., deliverance and freedom. This is why we pray in the name of Jesus.