



The Purpose of Spiritual Battles

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"Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you."
1 Peter 5:8-10

This has been a season of unusual demonic activity. We have all been beat up by the devil in one way or another. **It is important as kingdom leaders to discover the redemptive purpose of Christ whenever we face temptation and demonic conflict.**

A. Battles with the devil are unavoidable.

"Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." 1 Peter 5:8

No one is exempt from battles with the devil. No one. He is vicious, relentless, creepy, unfair, deceptive, and he attempts to steal, kill, and destroy.

B. Victory in your battles is relatively easy.

"Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world." 1 Peter 5:9

Passivity is the greatest single enemy of Christians when it comes to battling the devil. Both James 4:7 and 1 Peter 5:9 exhort us to stand our ground and "resist him."

C. When you face your battles, keep the focus on God's purposes.

"And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you." 1 Peter 5:10

There are not only benefits when you stand your ground against the devil, these benefits are entirely significant.

- "Restore" (Greek: "katartiso") - to mend, heal, equip. This word was used of the disciples when they mended their nets. Yes, you often get torn in spiritual battle, but Christ heals all your wounds.
- "Confirm" - Christ validates you, your authority, and your sonship when you resist the devil.
- "Strengthen" - Spiritual battle can be draining, but Christ strengthens you when you resist the enemy.
- "Establish" - As a kingdom leader, resisting the devil strengthens your resolve and validates your calling. When you resist the enemy, Christ will further establish your kingdom authority in the territory He has assigned to you.

Resisting the devil and standing your ground in the middle of spiritual battle plays an irreplaceable part in our lives. As a kingdom leader, memorize these three verses, quote them in the morning, when you drive to work, when you drive home at the end of the day, and when you go to bed at night.

Every kingdom leader needs to learn the redemptive purpose of God in every spiritual battle.

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