

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.” 1 Peter 5:8-9 KJV



Lions roar to communicate, establish territory, and hunt. They stalk prey and when close enough, they roar to confuse and frighten. Prey then reacts out of fear and is trapped and caught. Satan is compared to “a roaring lion.” He is trying to stake a claim where He has none. “*The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof.*” He is trying to confuse and frighten. That is why believers should not “react” to adverse circumstance, but should act as God’s Word directs. Notice in our text we are to “*resist STEDFAST IN THE FAITH.*” The evidence of faith is obedience to God’s Word. We resist Satan by obeying God! Satan and his demons are not ugly and grotesque creatures, but beautiful angels that fell from God’s favor, because of pride. They are still beautiful angels, but oh so twisted and grotesque in their intentions for men! Satan likes it when men think he and his minions are some night crawling scum from hell, or better, that they don’t exist at all, but the Truth is they’ve not yet been to hell and they operate in broad daylight. They go to church every Sunday and whisper incessantly into the hearts of the insincere, the faithless, and the backsliden believer. Look around next Sunday morning, if you even go to church, and you will see Satan working in every conversation to divert hearts from fellowship around God’s Word. If you do not know God’s Word you cannot obey it and you will become the prey of evil! Satan knows where to attack, because he has hunted for millennia and He does it well! He doesn’t need to work so much on those fishing, picnicking, mowing the grass, playing or watching sports, and etc. Because they are not part of a God-fearing, Bible-believing church, they are right where He wants them! Which is precisely why he goes to church; to find new prey! He uses gossip, bitterness, envy, pride, doubt, and despair to good advantage every day and especially at church on Sunday! Where else do you think he would hunt? If you’re not in the Assembly, you are already his! Pleasure enslaves and conquers men all Satan has to do is tempt. To resist the devil you must “*draw nigh to God.*” Since God is omnipresent, everywhere at once, how does one get closer? Haven’t you ever heard, “Those two are very close!”? That mean they are of the same mind and heart. Just because two people stand next to each other doesn’t mean they’re “close.” “*Draw nigh to God*” means to understand His heart and mind. The only way to do that is to read, study, meditate in, and know God’s Word. The only way to defeat Satan is to remain “*stedfast in the faith. Faith cometh by...the Word of God. Therein shalt thou meditate day and night.*” Without the Truth in your thoughts, you are a slave to your lust and Satan’s prey, like it or not!

Faith will calm the racing heart,
It will stay the fears that start,
It will stand stedfast in fray,
Until night’s forever Day! ~CGP

Men cannot resist temptation outside of obedience by faith to God’s Word. It is our “*way of escape*”; the Castle of the heart and mind when Satan roars! We “*flee*” temptation through obedience to God!

“The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.” Proverbs 18:10 KJV