



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Embracing God's Promises (Reversing the Devil's Decisions pt 1)

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Message Theme

How to Reverse the Devil's Decision in Your Life

Prayer Focus

Heavenly Father, I thank You for Your victory and the inheritance I'm blessed to share. Your goodness and faithfulness to me are boundless, and I'm grateful as I grow in knowledge of You. Lord, please continue to teach me to discern Your voice and follow Your guidance to resist the world's temptations. In Jesus' name, amen.

Key Truths

We're children of God living in a world influenced by the evil one. We must remain vigilant and aware of Satan's tactics to stand firm against them. The book of Job provides a clear example of how the Devil seeks to impact our lives, attacking Job's finances, family, health, marriage, and relationships. Since the Devil cannot harm God directly, he targets us, God's beloved children, as the next best option.

Here are some ways we can resist the Devil:

Look at the life of Jesus:

After Jesus was baptized, He went into the wilderness for 40 days and fasted. During this time, the Devil tried to tempt Him, especially with food. Christ responded by quoting the Word of God to the enemy. If Jesus, the Son of God, needed to stand up to the Devil, so must we. When the enemy shows up, we need to wield the Word of God as our sword. Just as Jesus spoke to storms, sickness, disease, and demons, we must declare God's truth over our situations.

Fix our thinking:

The enemy targets our minds, influencing our thoughts and actions. When we become Christians and give our lives to God, our spirits are saved, but our bodies and minds still need renewal. We must align our thoughts with God's Word, replacing negative and false thinking with His truth. Choosing God's ways over our fleshly desires is a form of worship and demonstrates our love for Him. We're instructed to put God first and not conform to this world.

See ourselves the way God sees us:

We are the Church, a set-apart people, called to be victorious. We must believe and embrace what God says about us to walk in His power. Instead of focusing on the problems around us, we should look to our

inheritance and God's promises. As James 4:7 says, "Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you."

Reference Verses

- Jeremiah 29:11
- John 10:10
- 1 Peter 5:8-9
- 1 John 5:19
- 1 Timothy 6:12
- James 4:7-8
- 2 Corinthians 10:3
- Matthew 4:1-11, 11:12
- Romans 12:2, 7:23
- Ephesians 3:10
- Colossians 2:15
- Numbers 13:26-33
- Luke 17:32-33
- Genesis 13:7-12
- Mark 4:17-19
- Revelation 22:12

Declarations

- I will resist the Devil by speaking the Word of God.
- I will renew my mind by meditating on scripture.
- I see myself as a child of the Living God!
- "YAHWEH, you alone are my inheritance. You are my prize, my pleasure, and my portion. You hold my destiny and its timing in your hands. Your pleasant path leads me to pleasant places." Psalms 16:5-9 (TPT)

Application Guide

Do you ever feel like life throws you curveballs that derail your happiness and well-being? You're not alone. This series, "Reversing the Devil's Decisions," explores the concept that while God desires good for us, opposing forces can try to lead us astray.

This guide equips you with 3 practical steps based on scripture to navigate these challenges and live victoriously:

- 1. Recognize the Enemy's Intentions and Resist:** Understand that the devil's primary goal is to steal, kill, and destroy. He may disguise his intentions, but his ultimate aim is always harmful. Be aware, Stay alert to the devil's schemes in your life, such as temptations and negative thoughts. As 1 Peter 5:8-9 advises, be sober-minded and alert because the devil is like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. Resist him by standing firm in your faith, knowing that you are not alone in this struggle.

2. **Renew Your Mind with God's Word:** Transformation begins in the mind. Romans 12:1-2 calls us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice and not conform to this world but be transformed by the renewing of our minds. This renewal helps us discern God's will, which is good, pleasing, and perfect. You can renew your mind with daily bible reading, scripture memorization, and limiting negative input that contradicts God's word.

3. **See Yourself as God Sees You:** Your identity in Christ is crucial for spiritual victory. Gideon's story in Judges 6-7 shows how God saw him as a mighty warrior despite his initial self-doubt. Similarly, you must see yourself as God sees you—redeemed, empowered, and victorious. Regularly affirm your identity in Christ using scriptures like 2 Corinthians 5:17 (new creation) and Ephesians 2:10 (God's workmanship). Visualize yourself succeeding in the battles you face, seeing victory through God's promises. Step out in faith, trusting that God's strength will enable you to overcome any challenge.

Scripture References Embracing God's Promises

Jeremiah 29:11 NKJV For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

John 10:10 TNT "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill and to destroy..."

1 Peter 5:8 NKJV Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil...

1 Peter 5:8 NKJV ...the devil walks about like a roaring lion...

1 Peter 5:8-9 NKJV ...the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith...

1 John 5:19 AMPC We know [positively] that we are of God, and the whole world [around us] is under the power of the evil one.

Romans 12:2 NKJV And do not be conformed to this world...

1 Timothy 6:12 NKJV Fight the good fight of faith...

James 4:7 NKJV Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

1 Peter 5:8-9 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...

Matthew 3:17 NKJV And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 4:1 NKJV Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

2 Corinthians 10:3-4 NKJV For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds...

2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV ... if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NKJV For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ...

Romans 12:1 ESV ... to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Romans 12:1 NKJV REF I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Romans 12:2 NKJV And do not be conformed to this world...

Ephesians 3:10 NKJV ... to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places...

Colossians 2:15 Lovett He openly displayed Jesus' triumph over satan, disarming him and his entire band of spirits down to the last demon.

Numbers 13:27 NKJV It truly flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit.

Numbers 13:27-33 NKJV Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there. The Amalekites dwell in the land of the South; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and along the banks of the Jordan." Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it." But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we." And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its

inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.”

John 10:10 NKJV The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

Matthew 11:12 NKJV REF And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.