

I. Submit

A. Precursor to resisting

1. When we try to resist Satan w/o submission = ineffective
2. Remember Authority - When we disobey God, we invite Satan's participation
3. Only more powerful than Satan as we operate in God's authority

B. Submission - dictionary.com

1. to give over or yield to the power or authority of another (often used reflexively).
2. to subject to some kind of treatment or influence.
3. to present for the approval, consideration, or decision of another or others: to submit a plan; to submit an application.
4. to state or urge with deference; suggest or propose (usually followed by a clause): I submit that full proof should be required.

C. We will submit to either God or Satan

Romans 6:16 "Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?"

D. Our flesh will never submit to God - Our will must choose to submit to God and in the power of the Holy Spirit put the flesh to death

Romans 8:7 "*For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.*"

E. In relation to Freedom - Submission is everything

F. Knowing truth isn't enough - submitting to truth

G. As we discuss submission/obedience

1. easy to equate submission with works
2. but it is always faith

John 6:29 (NIV) *“Jesus answered, ‘The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.’”*

Romans 10:3 *“For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.”*

Colossians 2:20-23 *“If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations— ²¹ ‘Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch’ ²² (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings? ²³ These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.”*

Romans 16:26 *“but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—“*

Romans 1:17 (NIV) *“For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: ‘The righteous will live by faith.’”*

H. Going free has everything to do with submission - To whom are we going to believe and submit?

I. Scriptures - Submission/obedience by faith = path to freedom

Galatians 5:1 *“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.”*

James 4:7 *“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”*

Exodus 23:22 *“But if you carefully obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries.”*

Deuteronomy 12:28 *“Be careful to obey all these words that I command you, that it may go well with you and with your children after you forever, when you do what is good and right in the sight of the Lord your God.”*

Deuteronomy 28:13 *“And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail, and you shall only go up and not down, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, being careful to do them,”*

Deuteronomy 28:15 *“But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.”*

Deuteronomy 30:20 *“loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”*

1. Remember - Our land = Freedom and abundance - promise of God

Romans 4:16 (NIV) *“Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.”*

2 Corinthians 1:20 (NIV) *“For no matter how many promises God has made, they are ‘Yes’ in Christ. And so through him the ‘Amen’ is spoken by us to the glory of God.”*

Jeremiah 7:23 *“But this command I gave them: ‘Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people. And walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.’”*

Jeremiah 7:24 *“But they did not obey or incline their ear, but walked in their own counsels and the stubbornness of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.”*

J. Some key tips on how to submit

1. Listen

Isaiah 55:2 *“Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.”*

Exodus 15:26 *“If you will diligently listen to the voice of the Lord your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, your healer.”*

2. Choose

2 Corinthians 10:5 *“We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,”*

3. be willing to suffer

Hebrews 5:8 *“Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered.”*