



GRACE
SO AMAZING

GRACE SO AMAZING TO THE HUMBLE
1 Pet. 5:8-9

1 Pet. 5:8 **Be sober, be vigilant**; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

9 Whom **resist stedfast in the faith**, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

Last week we observed how *Grace So Amazing* was connected with believers who “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God...” in 1 Pet. 5:5-6:

1 Pet. 5:6 **Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:**

- ❖ Basically, humility is *THE ROLE OF THE SHEEP*, being wholly dependent upon the Lord.

I. THE ROLE OF THE SHEEP, 5:5-7

A. Humility is Required, 5:5a “Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, **all of you** be subject one to another, and **be clothed with humility...**”

B. Humility is Reasonable, 5:5b “...**for** God resisteth the proud, and **giveth grace to the humble.**”

C. Humility is Rewarded, 5:6-7

1. The Prospect, 5:6

5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that **he may exalt you in due time:**

2. The Present, 5:7

5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

The passage goes from encouraging the sheep to humility, to warning about the destructive desire of the devil. Sheep, without the Shepherd, are vulnerable to the devouring of the devilish lion. Believers are taught how to defend themselves.

II. THE RUSE OF SATAN, 5:8

A. Watching for the Roaring Lion: The Requirements, 5:8a-b

- ❖ Humility of the sheep precedes the command to be sober and vigilant:

1. Be Victorious, 5:8a “Be sober...”

Original Word: νήφω **Transliteration:** néphó

Part of Speech: Verb – **Aorist Imperative**

Definition: to be sober, to abstain from wine

Usage: (lit: I am sober), I am calm (vigilant), circumspect.

***néphō* ("be sober, unintoxicated") refers to having *presence of mind* (clear judgment), enabling someone to be *temperate* (self-controlled).**

***néphō* ("uninfluenced by intoxicants") means to have "one's wits (faculties) about them," which is the opposite of being *irrational*.** <https://biblehub.com/greek/3525.htm>

- ❖ Humility includes a humble spirit of sober mindedness, not an arrogant attitude of self-reliance, especially against a “veteran” adversary.

2. Be Vigilant, 5:8b “...**be vigilant**...”

Original Word: γρηγορέω **Transliteration:** grégoreó

Part of Speech: Verb – **Aorist Imperative**

Definition: to be awake, to watch

Usage: (a) I am awake (in the night), watch, (b) I am watchful, on the alert, vigilant.

grēgoreúō – **literally, "stay awake"; (figuratively) be vigilant (responsible, watchful).**

- ❖ A believer's mind is commanded to be both clear and watchful, as a responsible soldier.
- ❖ A believer should be as vigilant for Christ as a patriot is for freedom:

“Eternal Vigilance is the price of democracy.”

Thomas Jefferson

“No man is entitled to the blessings of freedom unless he be vigilant in its preservation.”

Douglas MacArthur

“Eternal vigilance is only part of the price of freedom. The maturity to live with imperfections is another crucial part of the price of freedom.”

Thomas Sowell

“But you must remember, my fellow-citizens, that **eternal vigilance by the people is the price of liberty, and that you must pay the price if you wish to secure the blessing.**”

Andrew Jackson

❖ A believer cannot afford “to be asleep at the wheel!”

B. Wariness of the Roaring Lion: The Reason, 5:8c-d

1. Because the Enemy is Powerful, 5:8c

“...because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion...”

- ❖ A lion will slowly and stealthily stalk its prey, and when close enough to it, will roar to freeze its prey, and then pounce upon it to devour it.

2. Because the Enemy is Prowling, 5:8c “... walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:”

- ❖ Believers are commanded to be humble, sober, and vigilant because a terrifying enemy is continually seeking to destroy the testimonies of the careless Christians.

Eph. 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

2 Cor. 2:11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

❖ A perfect example is the recent “Asbury Revival:”

1 Jn. 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but **try the spirits whether they are of God:** because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Mt. 24:24 For **there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets,** and shall **shew great signs and wonders;** insomuch that, if *it were* possible, **they shall deceive the very elect.**

❖ Leonard Ravenhill said something to the effect, “We are so subnormal; if we became normal, people would think we were abnormal.”

❖ Sadly, though, Asbury...teaches theistic evolution and appears to be quite “woke,” promoting CRT-based resources, for example. <https://christianresearchnetwork.org/2023/02/20/the-asbury-revival-is-false-heres-why/>

In fact, at Asbury, there is little to no preaching at all. The Bible is not even opened.

Asbury College includes Spiritual Formation in its curriculum. We, therefore, can sum up Spiritual Formation as the pagan way to “do” Christianity, the religion.

“Spiritual Formation *is* contemplative spirituality, and it is sweeping quickly throughout Christianity today. If a college, a seminary, a church, or an organization (like Focus on the Family) wants spiritual Formation, may they keep in mind, they will get eastern meditation and the occultic realms that accompany it.”

At some point, someone posted a video on TikTok and other media; it went viral. Of course, after it went viral, the claim that a great youth revival was occurring at the college exploded all over the Internet and News Media.

<https://safeguardyoursoul.com/false-asbury-revival/>

- ❖ A believer is commanded to be humble, sober, vigilant, but also to resist.

III. THE RESISTENCE FOR STEADFASTNESS, 5:9-11

A. Warring with the Roaring Lion, 5:9

1. Unyielding Resistance, 5:9a “Whom **resist steadfast in the faith...**”

- ❖ Believers, with a humble attitude, are to know the enemy and defend themselves!\

Original Word: ἀνθίστημι

Transliteration: anthístēmi

Part of Speech: Verb – **Aorist Imperative**

Definition: to set against, withstand. **Usage:** I set against; I withstand, resist, oppose.

anthístēmi ("oppose *fully*") **means to *forcefully declare one's personal conviction*(where they unswervingly stand)**; to *keep one's possession; ardently* withstand, without giving up (letting go). Be tenacious!

<https://biblehub.com/greek/436.htm>

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

❖ A believer is to be steadfast in resisting the devil, not wavering, immovable.

Original Word: στερεός **Transliteration:** stereos

Definition: hard, firm **Usage:** solid, firm, steadfast.

stereós – (an adjective) properly, *solid* (firm);

referring to what is immovable (will *not* budge);

stable (not changeable), **standing fast without**

buckling or giving way (steadfast).

<https://biblehub.com/greek/4731.htm>

- ❖ The source of steadfastness is a believer's personal faith – "...in the faith..."
- ❖ After putting on the "whole armor of God," the believer is directed "ABOVE ALL" to take the shield of faith for defense against ALL the fiery darts of the wicked!

Eph. 6:16 **Above all, taking the shield of faith**, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

- ❖ It is imperative for a believer to stay saturated with the Scriptures:

Rom. 10:17 So then **faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

2. United Resistance, 5:9b “...knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”

- ❖ The command to be humble, sober, vigilant and to resist the devil is for all believers, in every place around the world.

1 Cor. 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth **take heed** lest he fall.

13 **There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful**, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*.

Conclusion

2 Tim. 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, **as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.**

4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; **that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.**

Eph. 6:10 Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.**

11 **Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

Col. 2:4 And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words.

5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and **the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.**

6 **As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:**

7 Rooted and built up in him, and **stablished in the faith**, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 And **ye are complete in him**, which is the head of all principality and power: