

From the Pastor:

The rest of James 4:7 says, “Resist the devil and he will flee from you.” To be able to resist Satan’s influence there are a couple important points we must recognize first.

One of the most important steps in resisting the Adversary’s influence is to determine that we really do want to resist. I would believe that there is no one in the Church of God that would say that they do not wish to live pleasing to God. However, when faced with the real choice between doing what we want to do and doing what God’s word says we should be doing, we too often choose to do what we want to do.

Now realize that doing what we want to do may not be (of and by itself) wrong. However, doing those things becomes wrong when they take the time away from doing what we need to do to draw closer to God. In other words, when we put pleasing the self above drawing closer to God. For example, spending time pursuing a hobby when we could and should be praying or studying God’s word.

Therefore, in order to effectively “resist the devil” we must want to resist the devil. Secondly, in order to “resist the devil” we must clearly recognize when the Adversary’s influence is at work. Satan’s influence is subtle. He works through the natural desire of human beings to please the self—be selfish.

Again, it is not wrong to love the self. The second great commandment of love states, “You shall love your neighbor AS YOURSELF.” (Matthew 22:39) However, selfishness enters the scene when we have an inordinate love for self—when “love for the self” takes first place in our thoughts and prevents us from thinking of loving God or others. Do we seek to pursue our own interests when we should be seeking to do things that will help us draw closer to God or help others?

Paul speaking of Satan’s influence in 2 Corinthians 2:11 said, “for we are not ignorant of his devices.” Please remember that Satan’s primary weapon for attacking us is to influence us to follow selfishness (1 John 2:15-16). And, selfishness—seeking to please the self—is so much more appealing to us than doing those things to draw close to God or care for the needs of others. This is especially true if we haven’t been seeking God as we should.

Therefore, in order to “resist the devil” so that “he will flee from you” a person must, first, want to resist and then be able to recognize Satan’s influence so we can resist it.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	6:32pm	6:34pm	6:36pm
Sunset Friday 3-15	7:36pm	7:37pm	7:39pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



March 9, 2019

Victoria

Split Sermon: Craig Hoyer
Split Sermon: David Gatley

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: Mark Monsivais
Sermon: Steve Moody

Harlingen

Sermonette: In Accord
Sermon: Michael Watts

“He who deals with a slack hand becomes poor, but the hand of the diligent makes one rich. He who gathers in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.”

Proverbs 10:4-5

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 3/9	Regular times and locations for all congregations.
Sabbath 3/16	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Victoria and San Antonio. Mr. Mendez will be in Corpus Christi and Harlingen.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Pot Luck: The next potluck will be March 16.

Corpus Christi Chili Night: Friday March 22nd, Chili at 6:30 p.m. movie at 8:00 a.m. at Mendez Home.

Corpus Christi Bible Study: Sabbath of March 16th, brown bag social to follow.

Harlingen Bible Study: Sabbath of March 30th, covered dish social to follow.

Passover Service: Thursday evening, April 18.
Victoria, Corpus Christi and Harlingen: 8 p.m.

Night To Be Much Observed: Friday evening April 19 near sunset. Please be making individual plans if you wish. Details on any local church wide group observance will be announced.

First Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread: Sabbath afternoon, April 20.
Victoria: 10:00 a.m.
Corpus Christi: 3:00 p.m.
Harlingen: 10:00 a.m.

Last Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread: Friday, April 26.
Victoria: One service at 10:00 a.m.
Corpus Christi: Combined with Harlingen at 1:00 p.m.