

Adversity : From God or Satan?

Today's scripture passage is from 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4: 8-9

*We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; Perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not abandoned; Struck down, but not destroyed.*

We all face hardships and go through some sort of calamities in our lives. Trials and tribulations, occurrences that are just overwhelming to us and seem to be out of our control. Did you ever ponder whether these things are of God or of the devil?

When the things of our lives get turned upside down, do you think its devilish opposition or a sign from God that we are on the wrong track? Well as always the bible has the answer! In James 4:7 we are told this:

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

Between these two passages we can see the truth about our dilemmas in life and how to react to them. You see we have to understand what God allows and what the devil designs! Follow along and remember the action words: submit and resist

Hard pressed – affliction is of God so .....submit to it, but crushing is the devils work.....so resist it. God allows perplexity, so.....submit, but despair is the devils tool.....resist. We may be persecuted, submit! But the idea of being abandoned is the devils existence.....resist. We are often struck down or upset by various opponents, that's life, submit. We may even be struck so hard that we think it's finished, over, destroyed.....who's work is that class? The devil.....resist.

Victory in all things is found in Jesus. In accepting him as your Lord, Master and Savior you have just signed on to the winning team! Satan's only way into your life is to lie about that victory and make you feel defeated, crushed and abandoned.

Jesus say's resist all of these things and they will go away. For I have the victory and so do you in me.

Amen