

GOD: THE SOURCE OF OUR STRENGTH

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Some Christians, when tempted by the things of the world, succumb without much of a fight. They turn away from God and quit the church, perhaps occasionally making a token appearance at a worship service. They live like the world, thus they once again become part of the world. They have and are committing “spiritual adultery” against God. James wrote, ***“Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God (James 4:4).”***

The key to spiritual victory is having the “desire” to win and thus relying upon the “source” of spiritual strength which is God. James also stated, ***“Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you...Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up (James 4:7-8, 10).”*** Spiritual faithfulness and victory are not gifts that God has given to some and refused others. Faithfulness and victory become conscious choices that each Christian possesses. When the problems and difficulties of life along with the temptations of the world confront God’s people, why do some leave while others stay? When one Christian feels the tug of the world he tightens his grip on the hand of God while another loosens his grip and succumbs to Satan. Why? What is the difference? It is a “choice!” We make a choice according to the measure of our faith in God and our love for things spiritual and eternal.

As Israel flirted with the world the faithful Joshua announced, ***“Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (Joshua 24:15).”***