

Pushing Back the Darkness

SERIES: Dangerous Surrender / Part 2

*“This is no afternoon athletic contest that we’ll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the devil and all his angels.” **Ephesians 6:12 (MSG)***

*“There will be more and more evil in the world, so most people will stop showing their love for each other.” **Matthew 24:12 (NCV)***

WHAT DOES GOD WANT US TO DO WITH EVIL?

1. DON'T DENY EVIL, **FACE IT!**

IN THE WORLD

*“Anyone who knows the right thing to do, but does not do it, is sinning.” **James 4:17 (NCV)***

*“If the people of the land look the other way as if nothing had happened when a man gives his child to the god Molech... I will resolutely reject... all who join him...” **Leviticus 20:4-5 (MSG)***

*“Take no part in the worthless pleasures of evil and darkness, but instead, rebuke and expose them.” **Ephesians 5:11 (LB)***

IN MYSELF

*“I know that good does not live in me—that is, in my human nature. For even though the desire to do good is in me, I’m not able to do it.” **Romans 7:18 (TEV)***

*“People who cover over their sins will not prosper. But if they confess and forsake them, they will receive mercy.” **Proverbs 28:13 (NLT)***

2. DON'T ACCEPT EVIL, **HATE IT!**

"Let those who love the Lord hate evil." Psalm 97:10 (NIV)

"If the godly compromise with the wicked, it is like polluting a fountain or muddying a spring." Proverbs 25:26 (NLT)

"Do not join a crowd that intends to do evil." Exodus 23:2

3. DON'T FEAR EVIL, RESIST IT!

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me." Psalm 23:4 (NIV)

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 6:11-12 (NIV)

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Proverbs 31:8 (NIV)

"... God's Spirit, who is in you, is greater than the devil, who is in the world." 1 John 4:4 (NCV)

4. DON'T RETURN EVIL, OVERCOME IT!

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:21 (NIV)

"... The Son of God came for this purpose: to destroy the devil's work." 1 John 3:8 (NCV)

Jesus: "... I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it!" Matthew 16:18 (KJV)

"Who will help me fight against the wicked? Who will stand with me against those who do evil?" Psalm 94:16 (NCV)

"I will make the Valley of Trouble a door of hope!" Hosea 2:15b (NCV)