

Sobriety Test

I am sure you know that if a police officer suspects you of drunk driving he or she will pull you over and give you a sobriety test. A blood test may even be administered to determine the alcohol level.

The best way to avoid the consequences of drunkenness is to stay sober. If we are sober, we remain in our right minds and our perceptions are not distorted. We are able to function appropriately.

The apostle, Peter warns us about our adversary, the devil (or liar). He tells us in **1 Peter 5:8-9** (ESV):

⁸Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

Did you know that when lions stalk their prey they do not roar – until AFTER they have killed it? A roar before would scare the prey away. However, they do roar afterwards to frighten the packs of jackals or hyenas that may come around to take the prey from the lion. In fact, I have heard that the lion is actually afraid of packs of those animals because in a group they can take down a lion with their sharp teeth.

Think for a moment about our evil adversary, “Satan” or the “devil.” He doesn’t send warnings about his presence, he hides it and stalks us covertly. Once he traps us, he can devour those who are unsuspecting. Right now there are many people who have fallen victim to him.

- A Satanic cult in Texas has demanded their religious right to practice abortion in order to use the aborted babies as sacrifices to Satan. They are being devoured.
- The BLM leaders not only admit to being Godless Marxists, they have also acknowledged to participating in séances in which they call on the dead to inhabit their bodies. They are being devoured by a lie. Listen to God’s truth in **Deuteronomy 18:10-14** (ESV):

¹⁰There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer ¹¹or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, ¹²for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD. And because of these abominations the LORD your God is driving them out before you. ¹³You shall be blameless before the LORD your God, ¹⁴for these nations, which you are about to dispossess, listen to fortune-tellers and to diviners. But as for you, the LORD your God has not allowed you to do this.

- I understand that school children in California are being taught to chant incantations to four Mayan gods of human sacrifice. We can’t pray to God in public school, but we can to demons. They are being devoured.

These are just three examples of the dominion of Satan in this world. He devours those who are overtaken by him. Did you notice that Peter tells us that not only is he the lion trying to devour but that we should resist him? What happens with resistance? He roars! He wants to frighten those who travel in packs to keep them under control.

Think for a moment about the recent “plan-demic.” Don’t think for a moment that the lockdown was about keeping you healthy. In my humble opinion, it was a means of controlling us by determining who could get out and who had to stay at home. Some government official decided that bars were essential businesses but

gyms and churches were not. Gyms deal with the health of the body and churches with the souls. And what are bars good for? Police sobriety tests!

So, churches were shut down for weeks by government officials. But then some churches said, “No! We are going to meet.” They defied the government and went back to worship. That’s when the roaring started. Mayors and governors threatened with fines and imprisonment. In some cases nothing happened. In others, ministers actually were jailed and fined. Now that the dust has settled and the lawsuits have been filed, the courts are finding in favor of the churches and their ministers, not the government. The roaring is ceasing because the packs or communities of believers are standing up against the lion.

Satan is actually afraid of us. Like any bully he has learned to bluff and threaten. He has tried to make us afraid. But God has given us a Spirit of power, not fear according to **2 Timothy 1:7**. That Spirit within us, which binds believers together, is stronger than anything Satan can throw at us.

Peter tells us to resist him. Look at what happens when we do in **James 4:7** (ESV):

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

When we stand up, he runs away.

Not only do we have to stand, we have to stand together. Do you remember the famous quote attributed to Benjamin Franklin during our fight for independence? He said:

We must, indeed, all hang together or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately.

When believers unite against our common foe we find strength and encouragement against him. Let’s stand together for Jesus. Let’s stand together for Liberty.

Let’s Keep the Light of Sobriety and Vigilance Burning!