

# WORD OF THE DAY



## WORD OF THE DAY ([1st Peter 2:11](#))

"Beloved, I beg *you* as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which *war* against the soul,"

### A WAR FOR YOUR SOUL



**The Christian is a pilgrim and sojourner.** A *pilgrim* is defined as a person who journeys to a sacred place for religious reasons, and a *sojourner* is defined as a temporary resident. These two words are both used by Peter in our verse of the day to encourage the Christian in holy living. Those who participate perpetually and rest with a false sense of peace in their fleshly lust, are no longer pilgrims of the world, but are residents. However, Peter reminds the Christian that we are not residents of this world, and since we are passing through, we should abstain from the sinful lust of the world which will lead to the death of our souls.

**The Christian is at war.** Although the Christian is a pilgrim, sojourning through this world on his/her journey to heaven, the Christian has a war to fight. Peter tells us that the lust of the flesh, which the world produces ample opportunities to fulfill, are at war with our souls. As a result of this offensive against the Christian, the Christian must engage in spiritual warfare. A casual and peaceful manner about conflict with people is an appropriate attitude for the Christian. Yet, when it comes to warfare against our flesh and the spiritual principalities of darkness, *casual Christians will become casualties*. Meaning, while the Christian does not wage war against people, we do wage war against our flesh, the world, and the devil; therefore, unless a fire and passion is awakened for spiritual warfare, being a casualty (death of the soul) of spiritual warfare, will be the consequence of a casual attitude towards this fight.

**The Christian abstains to win.** Unlike the world's way of warfare which includes domination, spiritual warfare is different. Peter tells us that we fight this war against our fleshly lust by abstaining - this means do not participate. Stay away from places, people, and things that you know will tempt you to sin. Standing our ground and choosing to not participate in ungodly behavior may either result in the devil running away ([James 4:7](#)), or us removing ourselves ([1st Corinthians 6:18](#)). For the former (the devil running away), brother James tells us to resist the devil and he will flee from us. And for the latter (removing ourselves), Paul tells us to flee sexual immorality ([porneuo - Strongs 4203](#)).

The Christian is a pilgrim passing through a foreign land, yet he/she stays armed and alert, watching and praying ([Mark 14:38](#)) that they may not fall into temptation - for they know all too well that this land is hostile territory ([John 15:18](#)).

-Your brother in Christ, WNL

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Spiritual warfare for the Christian involves resisting the sinful thoughts of the enemy and removing ourselves from sinful situations. In this, we abstain from evil in *thought and deed*.

### PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, I am a pilgrim meek and gentle. However Lord, you have called me to warfare, trading an attitude of casualness for a attitude of combat. This spiritual battle for my soul is real, and I must fight each and every day. Yet, when I remember that this land is not my home, I'm refreshed to carry on, from battle to battle, until this pilgrim will reach their home in paradise where this spiritual warfare will cease. In the glorious and holy name of your Son Jesus I pray, Amen.



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