

“The Lion”

Back in the early 60s, there was a song called “The Lion Sleeps Tonight” which was quite popular for a while, but there’s another type of lion in the Bible which is not sleeping, and is very dangerous. 1 Peter 5:8-9 tells us to: *“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith...”* Satan uses that “roar” to intimidate and frighten us, or cause doubt and unbelief, which are meant to undermine our faith and trust in the Lord, and replace our faith with fear.

I believe that his whispers are often just as effective. Every time we give in to the temptation and compromise our faith by looking at something (or someone), saying or doing something we know is wrong, his whispers have been successful. Every time we feel the need to rationalize our improper, impure or disobedient thoughts or actions, his whispers have caused us to sin, separating us from God.

The roaring lion whispered in King David’s ear, causing him to commit adultery, then murder, but when Nathan confronted him with the truth, this was his response to the Lord: *“For I’m so ashamed. I feel such pain and anguish within me. I can’t get away from the sting of my sin against you, Lord! Everything I did, I did right in front of you, for you saw it all. Against you, and you above all, have I sinned. Everything you say to me is infallibly true...”* (Ps. 51:3-4 TPT)

I know this to be a fact because several years ago, he whispered in my ear that if I looked at pornography (which He delivered me from in 1987), that I wasn’t hurting anyone, and no one would ever know what I did in secret. After about six months, the Holy Spirit confronted me with the truth that GOD KNEW, and that I was hurting Him! I fervently prayed the prayer David did, and was set free once again!

James 4:7-8a says: *“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you...”* In Brandon Lake’s song “Gratitude,” the bridge says this: *“So come on, my soul Oh, don't you get shy on me. Lift up your song 'Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs. Get up and praise the Lord “*Next time you hear that lion roar, RISE UP and roar the TRUTH back to him. Draw near to God, who will draw near to you, and watch the “lion” flee!!

Amen!