

RESISTANCE CREATES HEAT

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It is a principle of electricity that resistance creates heat. This principle of resistance is used to create heat in such items as electric hot water heaters and stoves/ovens. The element through which electricity passes resists the flow, which makes the element turn red-hot. The heat produced will warm water and cook food. This also explains how the old-style light bulbs made light. The filament through which the electricity passes resisted the flow, creating a white-hot glow of light. The principle of resistance creating heat can also be demonstrated by simply rubbing your hands together quickly.

I have noted all of this to make a spiritual application of the principle of resistance causing heat. Christians are commanded to resist evil: *"Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you"* (Jas. 4:7). *"Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world"* (1 Pet. 5:9). Resistance against evil will cause "heat" as we fight the good fight against error and endure persecution. Temptations and false teachers will constantly trouble the people of God who must resist the devices of the devil (2 Cor. 2:11). This is why we must *"put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil"* (Eph. 6:11).

There is no way a faithful Christian can avoid this "heat." We must face the fact that *"all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution"* (2 Tim. 3:12). Jesus warned His disciples that even families would be divided over truth and error (Matt. 10:34-36) and that the world would hate us (Jn. 15:18-20). Controversy created by resisting evil will cause some to compromise or fall from the faith – but it will also cause the light of God's truth to shine brightly for all to see. Standing for the truth can only be done by those willing to resist evil. Let us be faithful to God, resist the devil, and endure the heat of battle in the good fight of faith.