

Spiritual Warfare

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our lifetime battles against spiritual adversaries in supernatural realms; trials, temptations, oppression

Invisible Hostiles

We are not fighting against human beings but against the wicked spiritual forces in the heavenly world, the rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers of this dark age. (Ephesians 6:12 GNT)

Humanity's Accuser (Job 1:1-12)

Jesus' Holy Spirit invites us to perceive the evil schemes of wicked enemies in unseen domains. Spiritual attacks by hell's agents against people occurs with permission and under the supervision of our Creator. Satan had to ask permission from God to oppress Job and his family; the devil is not a free influencer in our world. The dragon is hate and his mission is death. His purpose is "delaying" the return of Jesus Christ, but he can't, because God has already written the day and hour of the end of time. God set the time boundaries of this age before he created the stars. Hell is home to millions of demons, and their king is the dragon. While they are experienced warriors, we have Jesus' Holy Spirit, and he is greater.

Discipleship & Prayer

- How have I been personally oppressed by demons?
- Who in my life is fighting a battle and needs prayer?
- Holy Spirit, I'm not afraid. I rest in Jesus' victory.

Alert & Sober > Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 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, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. (1 Peter 5:6-9 NIV)

Battlefield Weapons > Though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:3-5 ESV)

Beware & Escape > Our ancestors worshiped idols, just as the Scriptures say, "The people sat down to eat and drink. Then they got up to dance around." So don't worship idols. Some of those people did shameful things, and in a single day about twenty-three thousand of them died. Don't do shameful things as they did. And don't try to test Christ, as some of them did and were later bitten by poisonous snakes. Don't even grumble, as some of them did and were killed by the destroying angel. These things happened to them as a warning to us. All this was written in the Scriptures to teach us who live in these last days. Even if you think you can stand up to temptation, be careful not to fall. You are tempted in the same way that everyone else is tempted. But God can be trusted not to let you be tempted too much, and he will show you how to escape from your temptations.

(1 Corinthians 10:7-13 CEV)

Conquered Dragon > The great dragon was thrown out, the ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the one who deceives the whole world. He was thrown to earth, and his angels with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say, “The salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have now come, because the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been thrown down. They conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; for they did not love their lives to the point of death.” (Revelation 12:9-11 CSB)

Fallen Foe > The Sovereign LORD says, “You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings. By your many sins and dishonest trade you have desecrated your sanctuaries. So I made a fire come out from you, and it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching.” (Ezekiel 28:14-18 NIV)

Fame Temptation > The devil took Jesus up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and

said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over you,’ and, ‘In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus said to him, “It is written again, ‘You shall not tempt the LORD your God.’” (Matthew 4:5-7 NKJV)

God’s Friend > When you pray for things, you don’t get them because you want them for the wrong reason: for your own pleasure. You unfaithful people! Don’t you know that love for this wicked world is hatred toward God? Whoever wants to be a friend of this world is an enemy of God. Do you think this passage means nothing? It says, “The Spirit that lives in us wants us to be his own.” But God shows us even more kindness. Scripture says, “God opposes arrogant people, but he is kind to humble people.” So place yourselves under God’s authority. Resist the devil, and he will run away from you. (James 4:3-7 GWT)

Gospel Mystery > Remember what you were, my friends, when God called you. From the human point of view, few of you were wise or powerful or of high social standing. God purposely chose what the world considers nonsense in order to shame the wise, and he chose what the world considers weak in order to shame the powerful. He chose what the world looks down on and despises and thinks is nothing, in order to destroy what the world thinks is important. This means that no one can boast in God’s presence. But God has brought you into union with Christ Jesus, and God has made Christ to be our wisdom. By him we are put right with God; we become God’s holy people and are set free. So then, as the Scripture says, “Whoever

wants to boast must boast of what the Lord has done.”
(1 Corinthians 1:26-31 GNT)

Incompatible Desires > So I tell you, live the way the Spirit leads you. Then you will not do the evil things your sinful self wants. The sinful self wants what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit wants what is against the sinful self. They are always fighting against each other, so that you don't do what you really want to do. But if you let the Spirit lead you, you are not under Law. The wrong things the sinful self does are clear: committing sexual sin, being morally bad, doing all kinds of shameful things, worshiping false gods, taking part in witchcraft, hating people, causing trouble, being jealous, angry or selfish, causing people to argue and divide into separate groups, being filled with envy, getting drunk, having wild parties, and doing other things like this. I warn you now as I warned you before: The people who do these things will not have a part in God's kingdom. (Galatians 5:16-21 ERV)

Know Your Enemy > I want to remind you that your strength must come from the Lord's mighty power within you. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand safe against all strategies and tricks of Satan. For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against persons without bodies: the evil rulers of the unseen world, those mighty satanic beings and great evil princes of darkness who rule this world; and against huge numbers of wicked spirits in the spirit world. (Ephesians 6:10-12 TLB)

Life-Giving Power > Anyone who keeps on sinning belongs to the devil. He has sinned from the beginning, but the Son of God came to destroy all that

he has done. God's children cannot keep on being sinful. His life-giving power lives in them and makes them his children, so that they cannot keep on sinning. You can tell God's children from the devil's children, because those who belong to the devil refuse to do right or to love each other.

(1 John 3:8-10 CEV)

Poisoning Truth > The serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You can't eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. But about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God said, 'You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.'" "No! You will not die," the serpent said. "In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." (Genesis 3:1-5 HCSB)

Power Temptation > The devil took Jesus up on a high mountain. He had Jesus look at all the nations of the world at one time. The devil said to Jesus, "I will give You all this power and greatness. It has been given to me. I can give it to anyone I want to. If You will worship me, all this will be Yours." Jesus said to the devil, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You must worship the LORD your God. You must obey Him only.'"

(Luke 4:5-8 NLV)

Real Home > Dear friends, your real home is not here on earth. You are strangers here. I ask you to keep away from all the sinful desires of the flesh. These things fight to get hold of your soul. When you are around people who do not know God, be careful how

you act. Even if they talk against you as wrong-doers, in the end they will give thanks to God for your good works when Christ comes again. (1 Peter 2:11-12 NLV)

Refuge & Shield > He who takes refuge in the shelter of the Most High will be safe in the shadow of the Almighty. He will say to the Eternal, “My Shelter, my Mighty Fortress, my God, I place all my trust in You.” For He will rescue you from the snares set by your enemies who entrap you and from deadly plagues. Like a bird protecting its young, God will cover you with His feathers, will protect you under His great wings; His faithfulness will form a shield around you, a rock-solid wall to protect you. (Psalm 91:1-4 VOICE)

Sacred Armor > Take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your waist girded with Truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, having your feet fitted with the readiness of the Gospel of Peace, and above all, taking the shield of faith, with which you will be able to extinguish all the fiery arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. (Ephesians 6:13-17 MEV)

Salvation King > It’s you, God! You who are my King, the One who orders salvation for Jacob. We’ve pushed our foes away by your help; we’ve trampled our enemies by your name. No, I won’t trust in my bow; my sword won’t save me because it’s you who saved us from our foes, you who put those who hate us to shame. So we glory in God at all times and give thanks to your name forever. [Selah] (Psalm 44:4-8 CEB)

Self-Dependence Temptation > Jesus fasted for forty days and nights. After this, he was very hungry. The devil came to Jesus to tempt him, saying, "If you are the Son of God, tell these rocks to become bread. Jesus answered, "It is written in the Scriptures, 'A person lives not on bread alone, but by everything God says.'" (Matthew 4:2-4 NCV)

Self-Preservation Temptation > Jesus began to teach his disciples, "The Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law. He will be put to death, but three days later he will rise to life." He made this very clear to them. So Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But Jesus turned around, looked at his disciples, and rebuked Peter. "Get away from me, Satan," he said. "Your thoughts don't come from God but from human nature!" Then, Jesus called the crowd and his disciples to him. "If any of you want to come with me," he told them, "you must forget yourself, carry your cross, and follow me." (Mark 8:31-34 GNT)

Victorious Intercessor > Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is the One who died, but even more, has been raised. He also is at the right hand of God and intercedes for us. Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Can affliction or anguish or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written, "Because of You we are being put to death all day long; we are counted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than victorious through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that not even death or life, angels or rulers, things present or things to come, hostile powers, height or depth, or any other created thing will have

the power to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord! (Romans 8:34-39 HCSB)

Wasted Deliverance > Jesus said, “When a defiling evil spirit is expelled from someone, it drifts along through the desert looking for an oasis, some unsuspecting soul it can possess. When it doesn’t find anyone, it says, ‘I’ll go back to my old haunt.’ On return it finds the person spotlessly clean, but vacant. It then runs out and rounds up seven other spirits more evil than itself and they all move in, whooping it up. That person ends up far worse off than if he’d never gotten cleaned up in the first place. That’s what this generation is like: You may think you have cleaned out the junk from your lives and gotten ready for God, but you weren’t hospitable to my kingdom message, and now all the devils are moving back in.”

(Matthew 12:43-45 MSG)